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LITERATURE.

Historical and Architectural Sketches, chiefly Italian. By Edward A. Freeman. (London: Macmillan & Co., 1876.)

THE annual crop of green volumes of travel offers an excellent modern illustration of the old quotation "Coelum, non animum, mutant qui trans mare currunt." Those who can tell us little at home are seldom worth listening to from abroad. Minds which are accustomed to store up trivialities, to observe and read loosely, and to write inaccurately, cannot be made to bring forth good fruit by the simple process of crossing the narrow seas. There are some names—each reader will supply his own example—which act like danger-signals, and stop us short at the title-page. There are others—like Mr. Freeman's—which serve as a guarantee for the quality of what follows. In literature as in art even the rough sketches of a master are worth more than the most laboriously worked-up drawings of an inferior hand.

If we call Mr. Freeman's "Sketches" rough, it is rather because they give little detail than on account of any carelessness in execution. A touch here and there might, we may fancy, have been added or removed. Owing doubtless to the separate shape in which the chapters were originally published we find some repetitions; for example the peculiar character of Ravenna is insisted on several times in almost the same words. Considering the amount of attention bestowed by the general reader, this may not be without its advantage. There are, however, minor repetitions less defensible. Thus in the opening sentences of the chapter on Ravenna, the same words are used over and over again with tiresome and useless iteration.

But it would be waste of time to hunt out small flaws in an excellent book. Others, more competent, may indicate in what points Mr. Freeman's conclusions are open to technical criticism. We are content briefly to indicate the scope of a volume full of valuable teachings and suggestions to all who are ready to profit by them. Those, however, who, like a recent writer in the *Spectator* (Sept. 30), object to be "worried with history," and are not above confessing "what a bore it is to have had ancestors who have left behind them so many tiresome signs of themselves," will naturally turn from these sketches to some more congenial gossip. Mr. Freeman's business is not with their friends, the inn-keepers and ciceroni of modern travel; but with the mighty

shades of past ages, with Hadrian and Theodoric. For them his pages will be dry reading; and they will feel only bewildered and annoyed at the illustrations and allusions which his large local and historical knowledge enables him to scatter with a free and certain hand.

Mr. Freeman opens several of his chapters with wise counsel, which travellers will do well to lay to heart. As he says, "thoroughly to get up any city or district in its historical relations is rather a long business." Moreover, even when the time can be given, it is not every traveller who knows enough of general history to be able to study with much advantage local annals. But we may most of us profit by such hints as: "Every place should be visited twice. . . . Even if a man has only an hour to give to an object, he will learn more by giving it in the form of two distinct half-hours;" or, "The only way truly to master any of the great Italian cities is to visit them again and again, looking at them each time with a special view to one class of subjects."

On the last of these precepts Mr. Freeman himself acts. He is impressed with the belief that "to the student of universal history Rome is everywhere," and he holds, not the orthodox view that Romanesque is debased Roman, but that Roman architecture was only a stage in the development of Greek architecture into the more advanced form, known in its varieties as Anglo-Saxon, Norman, Byzantine, Armenian, or Romanesque, which had mastered the true combination of the arch and column. He sets himself accordingly to observe and compare some of the great Romanesque buildings of Italy.

Mr. Freeman does not strictly confine his attention to the study of the architecture of one period. His grasp of universal history is too strong and vivid to allow him in a land of so many memories wholly to pass over the earlier ones. He must sometimes throw a glance backward to the early ages of the Roman Commonwealth, and to the still more remote age when the first Greek colony planted its citadel on the brow of Misenum. He is ingenious in establishing parallels between places and their histories, remote in space or time, which, until united under the keen and far-reaching eye of a scientific historian, seemed to the unlearned reader without connexion. Mr. Freeman is, first of all, an historian, secondly, an architectural student, and this is what gives his book its strength and fascination. We are not puzzled by descriptions of particular buildings, too minute and technical to be followed except on the spot or by a trained student of architecture. His sketches, whether of pen or pencil (the illustrations agree admirably in character with the text), place before us in firm outline the leading features of a series of buildings interesting in their historical connexion, and impress the lesson how in this way, as in so many others, Pagan Rome survived throughout Christian Europe. Mr. Freeman, as all readers know, has a rare power of restoring the dead to life; he has brought before us as real and distinct personages the shadowy figures of our early kings. By the same power he makes the

dry bones of the ancient walls and basilicas of Italy living witnesses to a neglected period in the world's history.

Into digressions other than historical Mr. Freeman will not be tempted to wander. He does not lack enthusiasm in thought or expression. But it is an enthusiasm for political progress, as shown in the records of our race, rather than the personal and sensuous emotion, drawn from art or nature, with which the Mediterranean lands have inspired so many. His "Sketches," therefore, are as unlike as possible those we have lately had from Mr. Symonds or Mr. Pater. No picture is mentioned in his pages. To scenery for its own sake there is scarcely a reference. Twice, indeed, he asserts an opinion that the small Italian towns do not add to the effect of the landscape, and might profitably—at least from a picturesque point of view—be exchanged for Franconian towers and spires. To this suggestion we must entirely demur. Italy, with its glorious expanses of land, sky, and sea, its glowing colours and noble outlines, has no need of the quaintnesses of northern architecture. We cannot wish to turn Siena into Nuremberg, to supplant the stately villa by a dusky Rhine castle, to put a background of Albert Dürer to a *Madonna* of Raphael.

The arrangement of the book is in the main geographical. We enter Italy by Trent and Venetia. Then for a time the chapters fall into some sort of historical order. Ravenna, illustrated by comparison with other seats of imperial power north of the Alps—Trier, Aachen, Gelnhausen—is appropriately followed by Lucca, where the architect, no longer content to construct a casket glowing in all the colours of gold and jewels within, but externally rude and unsightly, raised as at San Michele a front adorned with a forest of columns. To Lucca succeeds Pisa, where the external front and interior of the building, at first ill-fitted, became parts of an harmonious whole, where the style attained its greatest splendour at the same time that in striving to combine other and incongruous elements it showed the first signs of decay.

At this point, however, historical sequence breaks down, and we are carried inland again to hear the early legends and history of Faesulæ, and to glance at the basilicas of Fiesole and San Miniato. Then we cross to the eastern coast at Rimini, where, leaving to Mr. Symonds "the Temple of the Malatesti," Mr. Freeman calls our attention to the arch of Augustus and the magnificent Roman bridge which still links, not only the town to its suburb, but modern Italy to the age of her early Emperors. Ancona next attracts Mr. Freeman to its Duomo, standing beacon-like on a promontory above the waves, and interesting to the architect as "a pure but not very rich specimen of the Italian Romanesque at its best point, when it had shaken itself quite free from classical trammels, and was not corrupted by hopeless imitation of Northern forms."

From Ancona we leap across the peninsula to Rome. Mr. Freeman shows us both the Servian and Aurelian walls, explaining the various kinds of work found in each by pointing out that in both cases the object of the builder was, not to create a rampart com-

plete in itself, but to work into a continuous line all available fragments of earlier buildings. After a visit to the Arx of Tusculum we get back to Basilicas. A most interesting sketch of the process by which the Roman Justice Hall was adapted to the Christian Church is illustrated by two chapters on the great and lesser churches of Rome. Mr. Freeman in his remarks on St. Peter's puts very tersely what seems to us the first and unanswerable criticism on its interior. "Proportions which take off from the apparent size, and therefore from the dignity, of a building are in their own nature disproportions." But we think he is scarcely more justified in his declaration that "among tourists it is received as a kind of moral duty to look on the Vatican Basilica as the noblest church in the world" than Mr. Hare in his monstrous statement that "most people, though they may not dare to confess it, will find it difficult to understand the praises which succeeding generations have heaped upon" Michelangelo's statues at San Lorenzo. The tourist, if one of the class may say a word in self-defence, is superficial and ignorant enough; but he is still a human being with more or less of the tastes of his century. Imitation, after all, is the surest sign of respect. When he goes home and has to build a church, he does not build in the style of St. Peter's. If Evelyn accepted St. Peter's as his ideal, he was the friend of Sir Christopher Wren.

"Greece in Italy" describes the bay of Baiae, with its long line of associations from Tarquin to Paul of Tarsus, and Paestum—Poseidonia—where we stand alone and face to face with the early Hellenes, as we have lately at Ravenna with Ostrogothic kings and Byzantine Exarchs.

Turning abruptly homewards we find ourselves again north of the Apennines, and in Milan, Monza, Como, resume the study of Romanesque. We are sorry to pass by Bergamo, the old hill-town which has stepped down on to the plain, and not to get Mr. Freeman's opinion on the churches—one, we believe, locally attributed to Theodolinda—in its neighbourhood. At Vercelli we are introduced to a building which for Englishmen has a special interest—the great church of St. Andrew. The reason for its peculiar features, the square east-end, the westward towers, much of the internal proportion and detail, is explained when we are told that its builder was the papal legate who played, in the days of John and Henry, so important a part in our own history. "It was," says Mr. Freeman, "out of the spoils of England Walo reared the half-English-looking, hardly at all Italian-looking minister of St. Andrew."

Aosta is perhaps the only city of modern Italy where Italian is not the native tongue. The outlying fragment of Italy to which it belongs was for long drawn by circumstances rather to the Burgundian than to the Italian connexion. Lately, when the princes of Savoy transferred their old Transalpine dominions there was fear lest the fate of Savoy should also be Val d'Aosta's. Whether it was saved, as Mr. Freeman suggests, by French ignorance of history, or for the more simple reason that Napoleon III. knew Victor Emmanuel well enough

not to ask him for his favourite hunting-ground, cannot yet be decided.

As we have already said, Mr. Freeman steadily resists the temptation to turn his sketches into pictures. He seizes the outlines he wants, and leaves out much detail which at another time might have interest. His sketches, therefore, will often be filled in by reference to other volumes by those who like to follow up a subject, or to linger over their travels. To his "Aosta," owing to a very recent visit with the Abbé Gorret's useful local guide in our hands, we feel tempted to add a few words. The mosaics, whether of the thirteenth or fourteenth century, which adorn the cathedral floor are of the highest interest, and, showing as they do the survival of Roman thought and work in a Christian church, might well have received more notice. Turning to St. Ours we get from the local writer a curious story as to its foundation. Ursus, a Scotchman by birth, was in the sixth century archdeacon of the cathedral. Finding that his bishop leaned to Arianism, he, in the year 525, in company with six canons separated himself from him, and founded on the site of the church which now bears his name a chapel dedicated to St. Peter. Ursus was buried in his own chapel, and through the miracles wrought by his relics the local saint in time supplanted the Chief of the Apostles, and St. Peter's became St. Ours.

The adjoining priory is reported to occupy the place of an ancient baptistery. It was built in the fifteenth century by Georges de Challant—whose castle of Issogne still stands near Verres—a great local benefactor belonging to a noble family which for long, we are told, did homage directly to the Emperor. Its picturesque octagonal tower, its windows and walls interlaced and surrounded by elaborate bands of terra-cotta ornament, form a curious and most picturesque contrast to the simplicity of the opposite campanile.

To the record of the great names connected with Aosta, Calvin might have been added. The cross which records with pride his expulsion from the town should not be passed by. It stands in a street to which, perhaps as a rough set-off to the inscription, the name of Calvin has been attached.

The date of the cathedral cloister appears from an inscription to be 1460, not 1636. The campanile of St. Ours is of the middle of the twelfth century.

In his preface, Mr. Freeman, we are glad to see, promises us other collections of similar sketches from France, Germany, and Dalmatia. On the southern shores of Italy he may also find fresh material for study. But we should be glad if we could persuade him to extend his wanderings to a further Mediterranean coast. The marvellous ruins of northern Syria have received little attention from English architectural students, and we know them at present chiefly through the beautiful drawings of Count de Vogüé. For one who is specially interested in tracing out the developments of Roman architecture and its adaptation to Christian uses, it would be difficult to find a more inviting field.

DOUGLAS W. FRESHFIELD.

The Offices of the Old Catholic Prayer-Book, Done into English, and Compared with the Offices of the Roman and Old German Rituals. (Oxford and London: James Parker & Co., 1876.)

THE Old Catholic movement in Germany and Switzerland, quite apart from any influence it may be exerting upon surrounding communions, has a special literary interest for English scholars, as helping to illustrate and explain the course pursued in this country three centuries ago by that complex series of ecclesiastical and political events which we group together, as though a single entity, under the name of the Reformation. Unlike in one very material particular, that of the direct interference of the State, there are, nevertheless, several points of contact between the two, chief among which stands the conflicting action of two competing schools—those of the Old and the New Learning respectively. There were no names in either England or Scotland under Henry VIII. and his children, or under James V. and his unhappy daughter, which, on the side of the Old Learning, can claim to be ranked with Döllinger and Friedrich, Von Schulte and Lassen, in mental power or in theological erudition, except Wolsey and Gardiner in the one kingdom, and Quintin Kennedy of Crossraguel in the other. But the New Learning can more readily find names to match with Anton, Kaminski, Junqua, Monls, and others of the Left among the Old Catholics, while Switzerland and Germany reproduce, with sufficient nearness to be very instructive, the dissimilar temper displayed in North and South Britain in the sixteenth century. The initial divergence between the earlier and later revolt is that the former began as a protest against unredressed practical abuses and unnamed moral scandals, passing thence by a sudden bound to the conviction that the root of these abuses and scandals was to be found in the theological system of the offenders, which therefore must be repudiated and assailed at all hazards. The latter, conversely, began with the rejection of certain modern formulations of dogma, and endeavoured for a time to poise itself on the *status quo ante* the Vatican decrees of 1870, but found itself obliged by necessary process and the progress of events to undertake various reforms, as well practical as doctrinal, reaching a great deal further back into the past of ecclesiastical history. Broadly speaking, and without searching into facts which do not lie on the very surface of the Church, the moral and disciplinary force of the great reforming Council of Trent is by no means exhausted in Latin Christendom, and no such notorious scandals now discredit the clerical body as made the fiery denunciations of the Hot Gospellers possible, and capable of finding a ready echo in the breasts of the people, three centuries ago; so that no wind of popular impetuosity has swept on the Old Catholic movement such as then precipitated the severance of Teutonic from Roman Christendom. The practical issue of this fact has been that it is easier for the leaders of the Old Catholics to maintain a comparatively conservative attitude, even in Switzerland, especially as they

enjoy two very important advantages which were lacking to the men of the New Learning in the days of Luther. In the first place they are not hampered, and at the same time urged further than they meant to go, as the earlier Reformers were, to a degree even still unsuspected by most students of Church history, by the alliance of members of secret Gnostic sects, transmitted lineally from the second century downwards through such channels as the Paulicians, Bogomili, Albigenes, Patarenes, and Fraticelli, and glad to shelter under the aegis of the Reformation tenets compared with which Calvin would have thought those of Servetus orthodox, sure as they were that if they were only loud enough in denunciation of Rome, against which they had stored up long arrears of vengeance, dating from the campaigns of Simon de Montfort, no very searching enquiry would be made into the positive elements of their creed. Although a digression, it is perhaps worth mention in this place that the pedigree of some of the least respectable of the communist sects in the United States can be clearly traced back through the French prophets of Soho (a part of the exiles from the dragonnades of the Cevennes, nominally Huguenot, but secretly Albigenian) up to the Paulicians in the seventh century, and their precursors, the Marcionites and Carpocratians of the second, who cannot be said to have ever accepted Christianity at all, though they have all through their history of sixteen hundred years blended a certain element of its words and ideas—not, appreciably larger than that found in Islam—with their own distinctive but less openly avowed tenets. The other advantage which the Old Catholics possess is simply that of experience. They have seen the great experiment of Luther and Calvin fairly worked out in the course of three hundred years, and its failure to achieve any appreciable part of the results which were most confidently anticipated by its sanguine champions and adherents. Whatever respect and admiration they may feel and express—as they have freely done—for much to be found in modern Continental Protestantism, it is plain enough that the sentiment of *hope* from this quarter is absent. Much as Protestantism may yet have to teach the world as a philosophy and as a social influence, it has spoken its last word as a theology and a religion; and, rightly or wrongly, that word does not so approve itself to the Old Catholic leaders as to induce them to abandon that conservative attitude which has drawn much unfavourable criticism upon them from outsiders who hold that logical consistency ought to have led them very much further in the path of change. The *Ritual* which they have issued, and whose translation into English by the Rev. F. E. Warren, Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, lies before us, illustrates very clearly the reluctance of the leaders to abandon hastily the ecclesiastical traditions in which they were reared, though marks of reform are present in abundance. The Bishop of Winchester was not far astray when he remarked at the Plymouth Church Congress recently that the standpoint of the Old Catholics now is nearly that of the Church of England

when the First Book of Edward VI. was issued in 1549. He would have been more exact had he said that it is what the Church of England would probably have been, had the liturgical reforms on which the Convocation of Canterbury had been engaged from the year 1535 been completed and published before the death of Henry VIII., and ere the supremacy of the Zwinglo-Calvinist party in the State, owing to the favour of the Protector Somerset, had enabled Cranmer and Ridley to begin that disintegration of the Anglican formularies which issued in the Book of 1552, and was meant to have gone the very next year to the full extent of the Congregationalism of Frankfurt, had not their schemes—unjustly ascribed to Bucer, Peter Martyr, and Alasco—been defeated by the accession of Mary I.

The liturgical meaning of the word *Ritual* is not that with which modern ceremonial disputes have made the English public familiar; for a *Ritual* is simply the book containing those occasional and quasi-private offices for most of which what we call in this country "surplice-fees" may be or have been levied. Thus the *Rituale Romanum* contains the forms of Baptism, Confession, Private Communion, Matrimony, Visitation of the Sick, Unction, Churching of Women, Burial, Processions, and a great variety of Benedictions, nearly all of which latter are retrenched in the English Prayer Book, not merely by reason of theological objections raised by the men of the New Learning, but because of the popular odium under which many of them had passed by being made grounds of heavy exactions on the part of the clergy, great numbers of whom, being unbeficened, derived their whole income from the accruing fees, which it was therefore their interest to fix at a high tariff. That a similar feeling has not been absent from the German Catholic laity may be gathered from the extreme brevity of this new *Ritual* as compared with the older one which it aims at supplanting. There are twelve items in the Old Catholic formulary, inclusive of one, Confirmation, which has been transferred from the Pontifical; while in the Roman *Ritual*, omitting sub-headings, dissertations, and rubrical directions, there are no fewer than sixty, of which by far the greater number are those special Benedictions already referred to. This great abridgement is the most noteworthy feature of the revised manual, and the next one is the use of the vernacular throughout instead of Latin, thereby extending a provision which has existed all along in Germany in such parts of liturgical offices as need intelligent expression of assent on the part of the laity for whose benefit they are performed; and a defence of this reform constitutes the staple of the preface with which the compilers introduce their book. There has been, further, a great alteration and simplification of rubrics, and occasionally a change of a doctrinal colour and intent, such as the excision of the exorcisms which form an important portion of the Roman offices of baptism and of hallowing of water. Mr. Warren has made his translation a much more useful book than the original to liturgical students, by giving in footnotes the text of the Roman *Ritual*, and of certain select

German ones—namely, those of Freiburg, Strassburg, Mainz, Salzburg, and Cologne, where they throw light on the new forms. There are two others which he seems not to have employed, which might have been consulted with advantage—namely, those of Augsburg and of the Austrian Franciscans. Mr. Warren has also been at the pains to draw up a comparative table to mark the variations of ceremonial in the rubrics of the seven formularies which he reviews, which enables the reader to see at a glance how far the process of retrenchment and simplification has been carried, and to note, moreover, that very much change which looks somewhat thoroughpaced, if only the Roman *Ritual* and the new one be compared, is shown to be the maintenance of a national use, found in one or more local manuals. This is as useful a piece of work as it is unpretending, but it is matter of regret that Mr. Warren did not, on behalf of English students, carry it a little further by tabulating the points of resemblance and divergence which the *Old Catholic Ritual* exhibits in comparison with the English Books of 1549 and 1662; particularly as some words in his preface, referring to the Order of Communion of 1548, show that he is fully alive to the relations existing between them. If this were done, and notably in a rite like Confirmation, where the existing Anglican formulary is considerably altered from that of 1549, it would appear that even this earlier reform was much more sweeping in its character than the Old Catholic one, and thus justify the statement, made above, that this latter represents a more conservative temper than even the First Book of Edward VI. How far it will be retained is as yet uncertain, for it was put out avowedly as a merely tentative formulary, liable to future revision on the basis of any suggestions sent in by clergy and congregations to the Synod up to the end of January, 1876. And as many such, not yet acted on, may be under consideration, it is not possible to assume the finality of this volume. Something, however, will soon be gathered from the impending issue of companion works in the series of which it is destined to form a part, especially the vernacular Missal which is promised, and in all probability a Pontifical to follow it. The curious fact that two simultaneous processes in the matter of liturgical revision are actually going on in the Church of England at this moment—partly authoritative, in the shape of change in the order of the existing Prayer Book, as by the New Lectionary and the Shortened Services Act; and partly informal and irregular, but not the less actual, in the growth of a supplementary and unauthorised office-book to meet new wants, and chiefly used by the Episcopate in the performance of acts not provided for in any now legal formulary—makes every recension of ancient Christian ceremonies by learned and competent hands a valuable contribution to the solution of some pressing difficulties; and in this way the interest of the *Old Catholic Ritual* is even more practical than literary, so far as the ecclesiastical body in England is concerned.

RICHARD F. LITTLEDALE.

La Révolution de Thermidor, Robespierre et le Comité de Salut Public en l'an II. Par Ch. d'Héricault. (Paris: Didier, 1876.)

THE time to write the history of the Revolution is hardly yet come. The passions which agitated the actors in that great drama outlived it, and to judge events which were still being felt in their consequences, and out of which all the parties on the political stage had grown, with the impartiality of history was for a long while impossible. Even now there are two classes in France who cease to be just as soon as they begin to speak of the Revolution—those whose reactionary opinions prevent them from forgiving the revolutionists the overthrow of the *Ancien Régime*, and those whose violent and intolerant Radicalism leads them to look on the Republic of '93 and its leaders as their ideal. Between these two classes are those who understand the causes of the Revolution without being its enthusiastic admirers, who are able to recognise the good as well as the harm it has done, and regard it neither as a revelation from heaven nor as a manifestation from hell, but as a phase of historical development to be studied and judged by the same processes as any other. The establishment of a Republic in France which bears happily no sort of resemblance to the Republic of '93, and which was founded by these same moderate spirits of whom I was speaking, free from prejudices and Utopian ideas, is greatly in favour of this historical impartiality. No one can be suspected now of speaking good or evil of the Revolution in order to stand well with the authorities or the people.

To judge the Revolution aright it is unfortunately not enough to approach the subject with a mind free from political prejudice; very deep research and singularly firm and wise critical penetration are necessary for the student to find his way amid the mass of information and valuable documents which have come down to us. Nor does any writer in these days venture to undertake one of the great general works historians were given to writing thirty years ago—works very useful, no doubt, as temporary edifices and for preparing the ground, but which cannot, any one of them, not even Thiers', Michelet's, or Louis Blanc's, claim to be a true, full, and conclusive picture of the Revolution. The need of elucidating each point separately, of establishing the truth of every detail in order to be able afterwards to reconstruct the whole with some degree of certainty, is now understood.

Mortimer Ternaux' *Histoire de la Terreur*, an important work, full of new facts, is something between a general history and a monograph, strictly so-called; but under the latter head we have had *L'Histoire du Tribunal Révolutionnaire*, by M. Campardon; *Charlotte Corday*, by M. Vatel; *Les Derniers Montagnards* and *Camille Desmoulins*, by M. Claretie; the studies of M. du Chatellier on the Generals of the Republic; *Les Volontaires de 92*, by M. C. Ronssset, &c., &c.; not to mention M. Hamel's apologies for St. Just and Robespierre, and M. Bougeard's for Danton, and a number of useful monographs on the Revolution in the provinces. M. Avenel, also, in his *Lundis Révolution-*

naires, has brought some interesting facts to light about the secondary personages of the Revolution, and M. Sorel is engaged on some studies of the very highest importance on the diplomacy of the Revolution.

M. Charles d'Héricault's book treats of the causes of Robespierre's fall and of the fall itself. It opens with the trial of the Hébertists and the Dantonists (Germinal, an II.—March–April, 1794), and closes with the fall of Robespierre's head beneath the axe of the guillotine (10 Thermidor, an II.—July 28, 1794).

M. d'Héricault possesses, in some measure, that impartiality which is in our eyes the first quality of the historian of the Revolution. He does not include all the revolutionists under one uniform condemnation, he takes the circumstances into account, and often recognises, in the worst of them, good qualities co-existent with the most atrocious leanings. Robespierre himself is not painted too black; justice is done to the probity which earned him the surname of *incorruptible*, and to his sense of the necessity of re-establishing order and authority in the Republic if it was to live. No doubt M. d'Héricault is rather hostile to the Revolution than otherwise, but there is nothing violent in his hostility, neither does it seem to obscure his judgment.

He is, moreover, thoroughly well versed in his subject, having gone through a course of sound preparatory study. He is acquainted with the numberless works, newspapers, lampoons, memoirs, reports, to which the events of the Revolution gave birth, and has had recourse, besides, to unpublished documents in the National Archives.

In spite of this excellent preparation, M. d'Héricault must be said to have collected the materials for a good book rather than to have written one. He wants the sound training of a historian, the critical faculty and method. Nothing could be more confused than his work, more unintelligible to those not acquainted with the events, or more unlike the serious tone of history. In point of fact, it is a newspaper article of 500 pages, written in a style so inflated, pretentious and feverish as very soon to weary the reader. He loses himself continually in endless dissertations on the secret motives of his personages, and repeats himself at every turn; we lose sight of the facts, and are presented with his own impressions and hypotheses instead. Moreover, he shows no kind of critical discernment in the choice or the use he makes of his sources. He attaches equal weight to all the pamphlets called forth by the Revolution, all those, at least, written against the members of the Mountain and the Jacobins of '94; he even goes so far as to cite Pagès' novel, *Histoire secrète de la Révolution*, as an authority. He forgets that all the writings of witnesses or actors of the Revolution need to be subjected to severe critical tests, that they are full of partiality and inaccuracy; that there is not one single personage of this drama about whom all the good and all the ill that can possibly be said about a man has not been said and written, and that, consequently, no testimony is to be accepted literally or without careful investigation.

Nevertheless there are excellent things in M. d'Héricault's book. I think that his portrait of Robespierre is just in the main, and that he does not wrong him in considering vanity and cowardice to have been the two most prominent features of his character. Perhaps, however, he has not laid sufficient stress on the sincerity of Robespierre's contradictions at the time when he was now urging the Terror on, now seemingly wishing to hold it back. There was, may be, no duplicity in that, but a terrible necessity. He was like a man harnessed to a waggon upon a steep incline: not strong enough to hold it back, he runs quicker and quicker to prevent being crushed, but at last the speed becomes so great as to overpower him, and he falls and perishes. Robespierre felt that the Terror must be put an end to, but he felt also that it was the source of all his greatness and power; to stop or hesitate was to be lost; he dared not stop, and hurled himself into the abyss.

M. d'Héricault shows, better than any one else has ever done before, the secret play of the passions which raged round Robespierre, and conspired to his fall. The rivalry of the Committee of Defence, or General Surety, and the Committee of Public Safety, the hatreds, the jealousies, the repulsions that inflamed some of the members of the Committee of Public Safety, the open hostility of the Mountain and the Convention, are analysed with great subtlety and an abundance of proofs. He shows extremely well what were the first seeds of the division between Robespierre and Barère and Billaud Varennes, as also the manner in which an alliance sprang up between the rest of the Dantonists and Hébertists and the Right Side of the Convention. In reality those who overthrew Robespierre were worse than he was; they had been as cruel, and perhaps more so; but he had become the incarnation of the Terror, and it ended with his death.

Again, M. d'Héricault, thanks to documents contained in the archives, throws full light on Robespierre's action from the 23rd Prairial up to the 5th Thermidor. He completely refutes the apologists who pretend that, having been absent from the committee during that period, Robespierre is not answerable for the frightful increase of terror which signalled it. First, he shows that the "Law of Prairial," which was the instrument of that terror, was his own work; that he never ceased personally to direct the police, the arrests, the executions; that he continued the whole time to sign documents, and act in a direct manner, and only withdrew himself from the administrative sittings and from general politics.

Through the medium of the Jacobin Club, moreover, and of the revolutionary tribunal and the commune he continued to be the soul of the Terror.

For this portion of his work, therefore, M. d'Héricault deserves sincere praise, but errs in over-estimating its originality. The strife of the Committees and of the Convention, the origin of the conspiracy against Robespierre, the injury his worship of the *Supreme Being* did him, and, finally, his share in the revolutionary Government even while absent from

the Committee of Public Safety, had all been brought prominently forward by Michelet in the sixth volume of his *Histoire de la Révolution*. M. d'Héricault has defined and proved what Michelet had only indicated and conjectured. But he ought to have mentioned the name of his guide.

His account of the 9th Thermidor is inextricably confused. Without knowing the facts beforehand it is impossible to make anything of it, or appreciate the new and interesting things it contains. M. d'Héricault believes that Robespierre shot himself with a pistol, and that the gendarme Merda did not play the important part which he claimed to have done. We are of the same opinion.

In conclusion, M. d'Héricault, as I said before, has produced the materials for a good book, not a good book. His work is like those nebulae which have in them all the elements of a solar system, but so blended and intermingled as to be in a state bordering on chaos. G. MONOD.

The District of Bākarganj, its History and Statistics. By H. Beveridge, B.C.S., Magistrate and Collector of Bākarganj. (London: Trübner & Co., 1876.)

ALTHOUGH issued in the orthodox form approved by the London publishers, and accepted by the London public, for books of a more solid and instructive character than the ordinary novel, this volume is unmistakably to be numbered among exotics. In point of classification it belongs to the Indian Government Selections—that is to say, to works the publication of which in India, at the public expense, authoritatively recognises the industry, usefulness, and ability of certain officials who submit to State disposal the literary outcome of their experience and researches. It is one of many valuable fractional contributions to Indian history which, however minute in proportion to the whole record, are indispensable to completeness, and of which Mr. Grouse's *Mathura* (noticed in the ACADEMY of October 17, 1874) was so worthy a specimen. The present work, we are informed at the outset, "is the result of nearly five years' experience in Bākarganj, and of subsequent researches in the India Office and Library of the British Museum." The author's primary object has been "to write a book which would be useful and interesting to the officers of Government and the inhabitants of the district, and therefore," he explains, "there is much in it which can have no attraction for the general reader." The History is divided into three parts. The first is chiefly taken up with physical features; antiquities; a financial review of the *parganas* or subdivisions of the larger district described; the "Sundarbunds" (*sic*), or maritime tracts covered with wood, and watered by river mouths or branches; Government Estates, and Land Tenures; the second speaks of the people, the products and the manufactures; and the third contains an analysis of the various heads and departments of internal administration under British rule.

Bākarganj is a flat alluvial district at the northern extremity of the Bay of Bengal

comprising part of the Sundarbans (or Sundarbans); and its capital, Barisal, is about 180 miles east of Calcutta. The climate is damp and enervating, but has its advantages at certain seasons—for March, April, and May, so hot in the City of Palaces and Eastern Bengal, are here comparatively cool. Formed of islands as well as a mainland, "it may be looked upon as a conquest won by the Ganges and the Meghna" from the sea. Moreover, a central depression and deeply indented southern boundary give it "somewhat the appearance of the out-stretched palm of the hand." To continue the quotation with a still quainter similitude, "a fanciful eye might regard it as a glove flung down by the Ganges to the ocean, in gage of battle, and as an augury of future victories."

If there be little matter of general interest and little subject for general criticism in these pages, the fault must not be laid at the author's door. His theme is a dry one; and no pen could well make it otherwise. He has enlivened the monotony of local details by pleasant allusion to old and little-known European travellers in India: he has brought forward such legends and revived such associations of the past as have been found available in the comparatively barren field of a country without annals; and he does not fail to put in the way of his reader the thread of enquiries leading to interesting discussions. We proceed to note one or two passages in the volume which invite remark, and are not unworthy of critical attention.

In the chapter treating of Antiquities and Early History we learn that "Bākarganj" derives its name from one Aghā Bākar (properly Bākir), a turbulent land-proprietor of the last century, but that the district was originally called "Bākla." The common interchange of *l* and *r* renders the similarity of the two names a strange coincidence: but the evidence of the older designation is well-supported by Fitch, Pimenta, Fernandez, Fonseca, Du Jarric, and Sebastian Gonzáles Tibáo, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Another local word, commonly accepted as "Sunderbund," is said to derive its origin from the *sundari* tree (*Heritiera minor*); but the rarity of this tree in the locality signified is against such a conclusion. *Sundari* is certainly the Sanskrit for "beautiful," and *ban* is a "forest"; and the *sundari* may be called "beautiful on account of the red colour of its wood." We prefer, however, the suggestion of the footnote (p. 24) read by the light of the text in a new chapter (p. 26). There is a tradition that a considerable part of Bākarganj was formerly the bed of the Sugandha or Sunda river, and as the Persian *band*, meaning "dam" or "embankment," would not be an inappropriate affix to the name of the stream itself, in denoting the lands raised above the water-level, it is probable enough that the compound "Sunda-band" may have been used, in the first place, much as we use the term "Thames Embankment," the *r* being a chance addition. In fact, "Bākir-ganj" and "Sunda-band" might both be instances of vulgar district nomenclature quite likely to occur in a land of Muhammadan *zamindars*, and where (p. 246) the Mu-

hammadan population is reckoned at two-thirds of the whole.

Mr. Beveridge has some very interesting notes on the preponderance of the followers of the Arabian prophet over Hindus in Bākarganj. This feature, common to all the districts of Eastern Bengal, and especially marked on approach to the sea-board, he accounts for by the strong local inducements held out to conversion, the Hindu dislike of the sea, and the fact that many parts of the district were uninhabited until Hinduism had fairly declined—in rough terms, to the numerical ascendancy of converts and colonists. "It is probable," he justly says, "that when the stream of Hindu civilisation came in from the north, it spread itself chiefly over Western and Central Bengal, and only slightly sprinkled the eastern tracts, which thus became Muhammadan by right of civilisation and conquest," explaining his view of the former term to be the expulsion of wild beasts and clearance of *jungle*, and applying the latter to aboriginal tribes in the north-east, and to Birmese and Portuguese in the south-east. That the Bākarganj Muslims have adopted many Hindu customs is not surprising. They observe the Dasahrá festival, and are not particular about their own Muharram, but they are stricter in their religious notions than the Shias of Dacca: "they do not drink spirits, and indulge sparingly in *ganja* and opium." All this is intelligible, and in accordance with the practice in many parts of India; though it is usual among Sunnis of the far East to see more fanaticism expended on the Muharram than sympathy accorded to the Dasahrá. Conversions in the present day are occasional only, and attributed rather to the influence of Cupid than of Mammon. The bulk of the Muhammadans of Bākarganj are cultivators, uneducated, and averse to Government schools. Their morals are not of the highest order, nor is our Legislative Code calculated to improve them by the operation of Acts framed for social conditions wholly incomprehensible to the Indian peasant. As regards other religions found here, we are told that Brahmans are scarce; that the Hindus belong chiefly to a low caste called "Chandal"; that the Brahma Somaj, of which we have had a notable representative in England in Kishen Sen, has a church, but does not flourish; and that the Buddhists are all "Mugs"—a tribe from Arracan, scattered over the Sundarbans, and of more interesting history than attractive name. The number of Christians in Bākarganj is stated to be under 3,000; though according to a late census, taken before transfer of certain tracts containing Christian villages to the separate district of Faridpur, there were 4,852. Of this number some 800 Roman Catholics form the Portuguese colony of the "Faringis of Sibpur," in the *pargana* of Buzurg-Umaidpur: their story, told in pp. 106 to 110, is curious and instructive. The remaining 2,200 or so, almost all converted Chandals, reside in the northern and north-western parts of the district. Mr. Beveridge cannot recall a single instance of the conversion of a Muhammadan inhabitant, and therefore concludes that "the Musalman religion is as great an ob-

stacle to Christian missionaries now as Fernandez and Fonseca found it nearly 200 years ago."

There are some interesting topics touched on in the appendix. Among them is the identification of "Bengála," which is thought to be "neither more nor less than the famous city of Gour, in the Maldaha district." Without entering into argument, we may recall what two authorities now before us, each more than two centuries old, have recorded on the subject. Purchas writing in 1617, and giving as his authorities Maginus and Gotardus Arthus, says, "Goure the seate Royall, and Bengala are fayre Cities." Peter Heylin, describing the cities of the Bengala province in 1652, thus places on record in his *Cosmographie*:—

"1. Bengala, which gave name to the whole kingdom, situate on a branch of the River Ganges and reckoned one of the most beautiful Towns of all the Indies. Exceedingly enriched by trade, but more by Pilgrimage by reason of the holyness and divine operations ascribed by the Indians to the waters of it; there being few years in which it is not visited by three or four hundred thousand Pilgrims. 2. Gouro, the seat-Royall of ancient Kings."

Had the learned doctor not been speaking of Banáras in a former section headed "Patanau," we might have supposed he was describing that city in his Bengala.

F. J. GOLDSMID.

NEW NOVELS.

Joshua Haggard's Daughter. By the Author of "Lady Audley's Secret." In Three Volumes. (London: Maxwell & Co., 1876.)

Power's Partner. By May Byrne. In Three Volumes. (London: Hurst & Blackett, 1876.)

Carstairs. By Massingberd Home. In Three Volumes. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1876.)

A Horrid Girl. By the Author of "Margaret's Engagement." In Three Volumes. (London: R. Bentley & Son, 1876.)

It would be hardly possible to lay down the last work of the author of *Lady Audley's Secret* without a feeling of sadness, at finding that after so many years an experienced writer should still think such books likely to suit the taste of the public. Let us not be judged as a nation by our popular novels if this is a fair specimen. There has been an undue amount of sensationalism, of violent incident, and of broadly delineated passion in the former works of this writer, but few have been so weak in sentiment and unhealthy in tone as *Joshua Haggard's Daughter*. It combines some of the faults of inferior French writing with English failings. The plot is sensational, the characters are all abnormal, and the facility of the author in writing only renders the faults of the book more conspicuous. The principal character is a Dissenting minister and grocer, who is a shining light in his native village—

"A man whose life altogether was so wisely ordered, so temperate, regular and honourable, that he himself seemed the highest example of that sober Christian life he preached to others. . . . A man in whose heart there was no lurking evil to be thrust out, for in singleness of purpose, in

directness of aim, in simplicity of life, he came as near perfection as it is given to erring man to come."

The object of the story, if it has one, is to show how jealousy overthrew with ease all that was good in this man's nature, as if the rectitude of a lifetime and all manliness, courage, and religious purpose were mere straws to be blown away without any resistance by this scorching wind of passion. Joshua first saves the Squire's eldest son from drowning and allows him to become engaged to his daughter, Naomi: he then marries a beautiful tramp whom he finds by the road-side, becomes jealous of her, fights a duel and commits murder; tells a lie to shield himself from conviction; turns his wife out of doors; and has a chapel built to his memory. Naomi's lover, after a long course of Byron and the "Sorrows of Werther," thinks that he is more attached to Naomi's stepmother, and is murdered by Joshua in consequence. Naomi consoles herself by marrying the Squire's other son and building the memorial chapel to her father. The beautiful beggar-maid, Cynthia, who unconsciously works all this woe, is represented as being devotedly attached to the minister, and we read of no change in her feeling towards him until we are suddenly told that "she suffered herself to be beloved" by the man who was engaged to her step-daughter, "and in this dreaming, half-unconscious state, had tasted an ineffable happiness." The minister, knowing this, says of her with his dying breath, "Cynthia, chosen, beloved, innocent as a little child, ignorant of evil; of such is the kingdom of Heaven." While of the young Squire it is said: "His only sin was to have let his heart go out to her as a young bird flies from the nest into the glad new world." Can maudlin sentimentality go much further? It is a pity that a writer who has won popularity should not sometimes endeavour to use her influence in raising the ideals of her readers, and run the risk of giving them the impression that our own baser passions and selfish enjoyments are the subjects of most absorbing interest in the world, or that they are worth even the talent which she wastes in describing them.

Power's Partner is apparently written by an Irish author, and has the merits of Irish fluency, and the faults of Irish carelessness, in its composition. The style lacks calmness and strength, but there is much feeling, and an almost unlimited supply of words. The hero is an old clerk in an office, who is wrongfully accused of stealing, and sent to prison for the fault of another. When he is set free he goes to the diamond fields, and really becomes dishonest and cheats his partner by keeping a prodigiously large diamond to himself. With his ill-gotten gains he becomes a millionaire in five years, and gives fashionable parties in Dublin, to which his former partner comes, accompanied by the man who has wronged him in bygone times. The passion for wealth produced by an undue and morbid susceptibility to the deprivations of poverty is as strong in Miriam Dwyer, the daughter, as in her father, the convict-clerk, and very nearly wrecks her life; but she rises superior to it at length, and does tardy justice to the man

whom her father has cheated. The story is a dreary one, and, we think, chiefly so on account of the morbid way in which poverty is regarded in it. Poverty need not be the degradation which this writer makes it appear; it may have its hardships, but they need not necessarily debase the nature, and it will only be an unmitigated evil as long as those who have to bear it regard it as such. If the style of this writer was pruned and restrained, she has talent enough to produce a much stronger story than *Power's Partner*; but she must learn not to write of "a city with numberless abbeys," of "gauzy anopphanous clouds," of "never being sure of him setting to any real work;" of "hollow cheeks glaring fearfully upon him;" nor indulge too freely in such sentences as this: "Strong enough to be very weak, good enough to be very wicked, there was a misery and wickedness on her countenance upturned to Verschoyle demesne that had nothing of the commonplace herd in its gigantic impiety."

But *Power's Partner* with all its faults is strong compared with *Carstairs*, which, for feeble platitudes and largely-printed imbecility, will not easily be equalled. The story is one of cross purposes in love, which comes all right in the end, and might have come right in the beginning if a young girl, one Lady Mary Hargreaves, had not lent her affianced lover 5,000*l.*, which she raised secretly upon her diamonds in three days, and the honourable young man with fine feeling, hesitated to break off his engagement with her until his debt was repaid. One of the chief features of the book is the number of quotations (between seventy and eighty) which are introduced promiscuously, without much apparent connexion with the story. The following is a specimen of their relevance and accuracy: "Just as they finish their inspection, the old clock over the gateway arch of the stable-yard strikes the hour. 'The clock struck one, and away she run, Dickery dickery dock.'" Here is another which is barely recognisable: "'Be thine own self, sweet maid, and let who will be fashionable.'" Of the grave style of *Carstairs* the following will suffice to show the average strength: "There are some emotions, some sensations, some phases of nature that no pen can portray. The first kiss of love, the breath of spring, the glories of a July moon—these can be felt, but not adequately described." The heroine and the clergyman's wife go to drink tea with the organist after a concert. Both are supposed to be models to their sex, but the clergyman's wife is a baronet's daughter, and therefore feels her religion quite inadequate to help her through such an ordeal. She comments thus upon the organist's guests:—"Friends of his, I suppose, farmers and tradespeople evidently, but none that I know; very good people, no doubt, but one doesn't care to meet them in this way." And readers of *Carstairs* must remember that the model clergyman's wife is speaking in sober earnest the sentiments of the author, and is not meant to be a caricature.

A Horrid Girl quite justifies its name, only there are two "horrid girls," and one of them swears, while the other shoots her

greatest friend with a pistol, and publicly horsewhips a man who has insulted her. The plot is an unpleasant one, and is not likely to give pleasure or profit to its readers; but there is little to say about it, except that we hope *dissolution* is a misprint, and that "a masculine figure of *middle height*, and wrapped in a cloak which made him look of *equal breadth*," must, indeed, have been a curious apparition. F. M. OWEN.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

The True Order of Studies. By the Rev. Thomas Hill, D.D. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.) Dr. Hill, who was formerly President of the Harvard University, and has evidently paid great attention to the philosophy of education, appears, from his own account, to have excogitated in a single night the theory expounded in this volume, to which he gives the name of the "hierarchy of sciences." By it he seeks to correlate the various departments of human study under the five heads of: i. "Mathematics, or the field of time and space in which creation is wrought" (geometry, arithmetic, algebra); ii. "Natural History, the material world or the creations of the Infinite will" (mechanics, chemistry, biology); iii. "History, the acts of man, the creations of the finite will" (trades, art, language, law); iv. "Psychology, the finite spirit, the limited will" (mental philosophy, aesthetics, ethics); and v. "Theology, the Infinite spirit, the unlimited will" (natural theology, religion). He thinks that a true insight into the classification thus made throws much light on the order in which various subjects should be taught, and the manner in which a child's faculties should be successively developed. Thus he would give far more attention in early youth to training in right notions of form and number, and to the careful observation of physical phenomena, than to any form of book work, or to the study of words. He would have much of the early discipline of a child regulated by system, and carefully directed towards the strengthening and co-ordination of his powers, even when the little pupil thought himself at play, and was not conscious that he was receiving lessons at all. Incidentally, in discussing each of the various subjects, this little work contains just and shrewd observations on teaching. In arithmetic, for example, it is shown that it is desirable to give much actual practice in counting, weighing and measuring in connexion with all written calculations; in teaching geography stress is wisely laid on a preliminary knowledge of the cardinal points, and on a map of the schoolroom and its surroundings, before the names of distant countries are given; of reading, also, it is justly said that the recognition of words by the eye ought to precede the practice of distinguishing single letters, and that the powers of letters ought to be learned before their names. Throughout the book there is a tendency to undervalue the systematic study of language. The author appears to consider that whether a native or a foreign or an ancient language is studied, it should be taught, in the first instance, by the same methods, by reading and speaking without the aid of grammar or dictionary; and that the analysis of the parts of which language is composed is a rather unfruitful exercise in early life, and should be taken up, if at all, when the mind has been matured by an exact knowledge of the things which words represent. On this point we do not think the conclusions of Dr. Hill would be endorsed by the wisest and most experienced teachers. Sufficient weight does not appear to have been given in his book to two considerations of paramount importance to the practical instructor; the one, that the logical order in which subjects are related is not the actual order in which experience brings them before the mind of the student, nor the order in which a teacher must deal with them; the other, that school can only deal with a small part of education, and that

many things are necessary to the complete development of the observant and practical faculties which must be learned by the experience of life, and which form no part of the business of formal teaching. Nevertheless, as a *carte du pays* of the whole region of intellectual culture, the book has considerable value, and will be found suggestive and helpful to all who are striving to understand the principles of education, whether they accept the author's conclusions or not.

Inaugural Address. By S. S. Laurie, A.M., Professor of the Theory, History, and Practice of Education in the University of Edinburgh. (Edmonston and Douglas.) The recent institution of two new professorships of education at the universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's, is mainly the work of the trustees of the late Dr. Bell, who administer a considerable fund bequeathed by him for the promotion of education in Scotland. They have resolved that, since the provision of elementary schools is now accepted by the Government as a matter of national obligation, the best use that can be made of part of the special trust funds thus disengaged is to employ them in improving the quality of the teachers, and in making definite instruction in the principles and practice of education a part of the business of the Scottish universities. No better choice could well have been made for the first explorer into this comparatively untrodden field of academic study than by the appointment to the new professorship of Mr. Simon Laurie, whose various official duties in connexion with the education system of the Church of Scotland, with the administration of the Dick bequest, and with the Scottish Endowed School Commission, have given him unrivalled knowledge of the state of the schools beyond the Border, and who is also known to have paid great attention to the methods and principles of instruction. His inaugural lecture indicates with much clearness and skill the range of enquiry proper to such a professorship:—

"While the professor must," he says, "as representing a practical subject, avoid all speculation, he must yet find some dogmatic philosophic basis as a support for his thought, if his teaching is not to be an aggregate of disjointed essays. In psychology and physiology he must lay his foundation; but from these departments of knowledge he will select only such materials as have a direct bearing on education, and in giving significance and the force of law to educational ends, processes, and methods. This portion of our course has to be treated in detail, as belonging to the Art of Teaching, and will necessarily occupy much of our attention. It will be illustrated by model lessons, and by observation of the procedure of the best schools. The means of obtaining practice in teaching will also, it is hoped, be provided."

It will be evident from this extract that the aims of the Professor, which alone can be fairly estimated from his opening address, are sufficiently practical, and are at the same time clear and elevated. It remains to be seen how far university instruction on such a subject can furnish genuine professional training for the teachers in higher schools, and serve to give to the business of education a better status, and a more definite rank as one of the learned professions. To English schoolmasters it has long been painfully apparent that the utter absence of all instruction in the art and science of education causes much valuable time to be wasted in schools, and is a grave hindrance in the way of all improvement. And it is difficult to suppose that any means will be found more effectual for the supply of this want than the direct action of the universities in recognising the usefulness of a higher kind of normal training, and in providing it for the future teachers in our secondary and higher schools. Prof. Laurie's lecture will be found to enforce with much earnestness and ability this view of the duty of the universities, and it ought to serve a useful purpose in England by calling attention to an experiment of extreme importance and value, which, if successful, will deserve extensive imitation.

Systems of Education; a History and Criticism of the Principles, Method, Organisation, and Moral Discipline advocated by Eminent Educationists. By John Gill. (Longmans.) This volume contains a series of lectures delivered to the students in the Cheltenham Training College, of which Mr. Gill has been the Master of Method during many years. They discuss in turn the principal books on Education which have been written in English, such as those of Ascham, Milton, Locke, and Knox, and furnish an outline of the main principles which were characteristic of the systems of Pestalozzi, and of Fröbel, of Bell, of Lancaster, and of Stow. Much information is also given respecting the early history and development of the system of grants and of supervision, now administered by the Privy Council. The value of such information as part of the professional training of the elementary teacher is unquestionable, and the rules of practice which Mr. Gill deduces from his historical sketches are on the whole judicious and practical. The range, however, of the author's experience appears to be mainly and necessarily restricted to the needs of the primary school, and no attempt is made in the book to explain the general philosophy of education as it is illustrated by ancient writers and systems and by modern French authorities. Such a book as this may be thankfully accepted by teachers as a provisional contribution to a true history of their art; but it serves, in its general meagreness of thought, and in its want of breadth and of philosophic insight, to show how far we are in England from a true science of *Pädagogik*, and how unlikely it is that the need will ever be properly supplied, except by the recognition of teaching as a liberal profession and as an important department of academic training in the universities.

School Inspection. By D. R. Fearon, M.A. (Macmillan.) In this little manual are collected the ripe fruits of a singularly varied experience. Mr. Fearon was for some years one of the Privy Council Inspectors, and has subsequently been engaged in several special and important enquiries relating to the English Grammar Schools, the Scottish Burgh Schools, and other institutions for secondary education. He has thus enjoyed exceptional opportunities of testing different forms of educational work. In this book he has confined himself to the task of setting down, with precision and clearness, the rules which should be observed in a methodical and thorough inspection and examination of a primary school by one of the Privy Council Inspectors. No detail of organisation, of method, of mechanism, of furniture, or of teaching, escapes his attention, and in regard to each of these details, he shows how the skilled inspector should form his judgment, and how he can fulfil in the best way his duties to the Education Department, to the teachers, and to the schools. He has aimed simply at the modest purpose of furnishing a practical manual for the guidance of inspectors, and from this point of view it is impossible to speak too highly of the wisdom and accuracy with which his task has been fulfilled. But his work will not be less valuable to schoolmasters and mistresses, and will, we may hope, be extensively studied by them; for in no English book that we know, of similar size, is the ideal picture of a good and vigorous elementary school so well painted, and in none is there a greater store of judicious counsel as to the practical work of such a school, and as to the spirit in which that work should be done.

A Classified Catalogue of School, College, Classical, Technical, and General Educational Works, in use in the United Kingdom and its Dependencies in 1876, so arranged as to Show at a Glance what Works are Available in any Branch of Education. (Sampson Low.) The title of this book explains its purpose. It may suffice to say here that the information given is very full, extending to 154 closely-printed pages; that ample particulars are furnished relating to the sizes and prices of the

various books; that the classification is such as to facilitate reference; and that such tests as we have been able to apply in the case of books selected at random give an impression that the work has been prepared with commendable labour and exactness.

Silver Vindicated. By Henri Cernuschi. (P. S. King.) M. Cernuschi shows conclusively that the increased production of silver at the American mines does not account for the fall in the value of silver. A vastly greater increase in the production of gold after the discovery of the Californian and Australian mines made hardly any change in the relative value of the two metals. M. Cernuschi accordingly appears justified in affirming that if the German law of 1871 had never been passed, other countries would not have been driven to suspend the coinage of silver, its value would have been maintained, and the Anglo-Indian exchange would have been undisturbed. But when M. Cernuschi proceeds to argue that both silver and gold ought now to be made legal tender everywhere at a fixed relative value of 15½:1, he seems to ignore one difficulty altogether. Supposing silver to be really worth considerably less, as might easily happen, either there must be perfect liberty to everyone to bring silver to the mint, or there must be a restriction to the amount coined. In the former case, the cheaper metal would alone be coined, gold would be driven from circulation, and there would be, what M. Cernuschi abhors, monometallism. If, on the other hand, the coinage of silver were limited, the value of silver in the shape of coin would cease to bear any relation to its value as a metal; and on the same principle copper coins might be issued at the ratio to gold of 15½, with the advantage of a saving to the State in proportion to the lower cost of copper. M. Cernuschi's faith in his cause is equal to his zeal and ability, but faith nowadays does not remove mountains, and we believe it would be an easier feat to remove all the mountains in England than to expel monometallism, in the form of a gold standard, from our currency. *Vestigia nulla retrorsum.*

NOTES AND NEWS.

MR. BREWER has resigned the Chair of Modern History at King's College, London, retaining that of English Literature. He will be succeeded by Mr. S. R. Gardiner.

DR. F. V. HAYDEN, the indefatigable geologist in charge of the United States Government Survey of the Territories, is about to bring out a *Prachtwerk* on the Yellowstone Park and the mountain regions of Nevada, Idaho, Colorado and Utah. It will be illustrated by fifteen chromolithographs from drawings by Mr. Moran, the artist to the expedition of 1871. The text will be published simultaneously in English, French and German. Messrs. L. Prang and Co., of Boston, Mass., are the publishers.

MESSRS. EYRE AND SPOTTISWOODE will publish about Christmas an Edition of the Authorised Version of the Bible, with footnotes comprising the best Readings and Renderings of the Hebrew and Greek Text, and specifying the Authorities (in each case) from which they have been taken.

THE Chaucer Society is reprinting its issue of Texts, &c. for its first year, 1868, its stock having run out. Mr. Furnivall will take this opportunity of adding a few additions and corrections to his "Temporary Preface to the Six-Text edition of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*: Part I., attempting to show the true Order of the Tales, and the Days and Stages of the Pilgrimage, &c."

WE are only able this week to announce the death of Friedrich Wilhelm Ritschl, in his seventy-first year. His best-known work is his edition of Plautus (Bonn, 1848-1853).

THE Rev. Joseph Stevenson having resigned his appointment as agent for the Public Record

Office in the collection of copies of State Papers from the Vatican, Mr. W. H. Bliss, of the Bodleian Library, has been appointed his successor.

THOSE who are aware how much of our knowledge of English politics at the end of the reign of James I. and at the commencement of that of his successor is owing to the despatches and State Papers of the Ambassador of the Elector Palatine will be glad to find in Dr. Krüner's *Johann von Rusdorf* a sketch of the life of a man who, if he did not rise to the first rank of statesmen, was distinguished by his good sense and by his thorough loyalty to his unfortunate master. Dr. Krüner is not writing a history of Rusdorf's times, and it is therefore sufficient to say that some of his statements about men and things in England require a good deal of correction; as, for instance, the assertion that Gondomar was in England in 1619, that a Parliament was sitting in 1623, and that the Venetian ambassador in London in 1624 was called Francesco di Bologna. It is quite enough that he has executed his own proper task carefully and gracefully, and has brought out the lineaments of a man who deserves to be remembered, if it were but for his sensible criticism of Buckingham's high-flying schemes. Dr. Krüner informs us that there are many letters of Rusdorf's still in MSS. May we hope that he will add to the benefits which he has conferred on us by committing them to the press? Those written by Rusdorf when he accompanied the two young Palatine Princes to England in 1636 would have a special interest for Englishmen.

MR. CHARLES MADELEY, of the Warrington Museum, writes that he has had some copies printed of the book-scale referred to in our issue of November 4, and that he will be happy to forward a specimen to any person interested on receipt of a stamp.

MR. C. B. CAYLEY's translation of the *Iliad*, in quantitative hexameters, is now all in print, and may probably be published pretty soon.

THE valuable library of Dr. Thomas Willis, of Dublin, is advertised for sale by Messrs. Jones, of D'Olier Street, Dublin, for the 22nd inst. and following days.

M. CLERMONT-GANNEAU has arrived in London for the purpose of carrying out a mission entrusted to him by the French Minister of Public Instruction. M. Ganneau will investigate all the alphabetical inscriptions in the Semitic languages preserved in the British Museum and in the collection of the Palestine Exploration Fund, and will make an exact copy of them for a *Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum* undertaken by the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres.

M. GANNEAU has recently been appointed to deliver a course of lectures at the Sorbonne (Ecole pratique des hautes Etudes) on Oriental Archaeology. He will begin with a series on the Sepulchral Monuments of Palestine, and on the Towns of the Tribe of Judah.

THE Religious Tract Society has ready for publication a volume on *Jewish Social Life in the Days of Christ*, by the Rev. Dr. Edersheim; and a second series of *Meditations on the Miracles*, by the Dean of Chester, is in preparation. Foxe's *Acts and Monuments*, complete, in eight large volumes, has been reprinted under the editorship of the Rev. Dr. Stoughton and Prof. Stanley Leathes.

MR. W. R. S. RALSTON will give "a Gossip" on Slaves in general and Russians in particular, at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, next Monday afternoon at 3.45.

A NEW German Philological Review, devoted to English Literature and Language, and entitled *Anglia*, will make its first appearance next April. Prof. R. Wülcker, of Leipzig, will edit the first division of the work, consisting of essays on literature, history of the language, grammar, &c.

Dr. Moritz Trautmann will edit the second division, containing reviews of books, and a yearly bibliography of all publications relating to English. Among the writers who have promised support are Profs. ten Brink, Grein, Heyne, Kiessner, Schipper, Sievers, Stengel, Wagner, Zupitza; Drs. Flügel, Hertzberg, Alexander and Imanuel Schmidt, Horstmann, &c.

THE pleasant paper on Shakspeare's Young Men—their five classes and their characteristics—in the current number of the *Westminster Review* is by Miss Constance O'Brien, of Clifton, whose help in the New Shakspeare Society's edition of Prof. Spalding's Letter on *The Two Noble Kinsmen* is acknowledged by Mr. Furnivall in his "Forewords" to that book. The article on "The Religion of Shakspeare" in the *Theological Review* for October is by Mr. Edward R. Russell, of the Liverpool *Daily Post*, whose pamphlets on Mr. Irving's *Macbeth* excited some attention last season.

FOR his little book for the Chaucer Society on *Chaucer as Valet and Squire to Edward III.*—the Household Book of Edward II., with extracts from that of Edward IV.—Mr. Furnivall has had Hoccleve's vignette portrait of Chaucer in the Harleian MS. 4866 enlarged to four times its size by the Autotype Company. Though the process has of course roughened the lines and texture of the original, yet the enlarged portrait brings out well the tenderness and pathos of the sad and serious face of the poet in his old age. The light of the blue-grey eye is somewhat missed; but on the whole the portrait will be very welcome to all lovers of the London poet, who from Thames Street and Westminster sang the songs and told the tales that the world resounds with still.

MR. H. SIMON's essay for the Chaucer Society, on "Chaucer's Parson and Parson's Tale," will give a stir to students. Mr. Simon contends that the description of the Parson in the general prologue is that of a Wycliffite, poor, preaching the Gospel, visiting his people, staff in hand, as Wycliffe bade him; that in the Shipman's prologue, or Man of Law-Shipman Link, the Parson is expressly called a Lollard, and does not repudiate the epithet; that in a representative gathering of all the main classes of men of his time Chaucer would have been sure to put a Wycliffite, one of those whom his patron, John of Gaunt, befriended; lastly, that if you carefully examine the Parson's Tale, you can pick out of it a short Gospel sermon on penitence, containing no Romish doctrine, written clearly and well in Chaucer's style. The rest, Mr. Simon contends, is clumsy, tautologous interpolation of Romish doctrines by a monk, made in Chaucer's Tale after his death, by one of the monastery of St. Mary's, Westminster, in the garden of which Chaucer died.

A GOOD collection of rare English Bibles and Testaments was disposed of on Monday and Tuesday this week by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge. Among them were: *Byble faithfully translated by Myles Coverdale*, Zürich, 1550, slightly imperfect, which fetched 16l. 10s.; *Testament (Neue) in Englyshe* (by Tyndale) and in *Latyn* (by Erasmus), 1538, 15l. 15s.; *Byble in Englyshe*, the Great or Cromwell's Bible, imperfect, 15l.; *Testament (Neue) both Latine (Vulgate) and Englyshe*, by Coverdale, 1538, 17l.; *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta*, edidit B. Walton, 1657, 16l. 10s. Among other scarce works sold on the same days were Wilkinson's *Manners and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians*, 11l. 15s.; *More's (Sir Thomas) Works*, black letter, 1557, 16l. 16s.; Dibdin's *Bibliographical Tour in France and Germany*, 7l. 12s.; ditto, *in England and Scotland*, 4l. 12s.; Silvestre's *Paléographie Universelle*, 9l. 15s.; *Turner Gallery*, 9l. 12s.; T. D'Urfey's *Wit and Mirth*, 1719-20, 7l.; Dugdale's *Warwickshire*, 4l. 10s.; Holme's *Academy of Armory*, 1688, 8l. 5s.; sixteen volumes of H. B.'s *Caricatures*, containing 825 impressions, realised 11l.

PROF. C. DE HARLEZ, Canon of the Cathedral of Liège, has just published the second volume of his translation of the *Avesta*. It contains Vispered, Yagna, the Twenty-first Naska, and the Yeshts, i.-x. The character of the translation is well described by the author himself:—"Si l'on ne peut suivre le Dr. Roth dans ses hardiesses, on ne doit point non plus, en présence de raisons objectives sérieuses, s'astreindre à ce respect exagéré que professe certaine école pour des manuscrits récents et très-défectueux."

In an article on the "Laws of Dream Fancy" in the *Cornhill Magazine*, the writer gives with great precision the conclusions which modern psychology has arrived at on this subject. As to the physiological conditions of dreams he adopts provisionally the hypothesis of Wundt that the cerebral excitations, partial and locally circumscribed, to which every dream corresponds are due to the retardation of the circulation of the blood in the brain, and to the presence in the blood thus arrested of numerous products of decomposition. To the psychologist dreams present three main problems: (a) the elements of which they are composed; (b) the exceptional order of sequence and composition of these elements; (c) the apparent objective reality of the products. Beginning with the last, the writer attributes the apparent objectivity of the dream-images to two circumstances. The difference between a perception and an imagination being one of degree and not of kind, imaginations in waking life are recognised as such through a certain ratio of intensity to actual sensations; they fail to be recognised when this ratio is obliterated by the increased intensity of the imagination, due to an extraordinary irritability in the cerebral elements excited in dreams, and by the almost total deprivation of sensation, so that the mind loses its normal standard of comparison. Passing to the consideration of the constituent elements of dreams, he attributes them to (1) external stimulation of the sensory organs—e.g. by a noise—or (2) to internal stimulation within a particular organ itself, arising, according to Helmholtz, from varying pressure on the nerve exerted by the blood, or from a chemical action of the blood due to its altered composition. The so-called "light-chaos" or "light-dust," which often transforms itself into a crowd of exactly similar objects—e.g. faces—as in De Quincey's dreams, arises from the stimulation of the optic nerve through the pressure of the blood in the retinal vessels. (3) Excitation is due to muscular movement, or to resistance to muscular movement. Wundt attributes the dream of falling down an abyss to an involuntary extension of the foot of the sleeper, and the dream of hurried flight to the movements of respiration. (4) Excitations are due to "organic" sensations—e.g. the feeling of repletion. Volkelt says that a faint toothache will prompt images resembling a row of teeth, and the writer quotes from him a dream, arising from toothache, of two rows of boys, who attacked one another, and then fell again into line. These several kinds of stimulation are called peripheral, as distinguished from the central or automatic excitations of the brain not depending on movements carried to it from the periphery of the nervous system. These central stimulations are either direct or indirect: direct, when due to the state of nutrition of the brain elements, or to the action of the blood upon them, as, e.g., when we dream about the events of the preceding day; or indirect, when to the primary cerebral excitation other imaginative elements are added by the operation of association. A large portion of the contents of every dream arrives in this way; as the image of a face may associate with itself a number of actions performed by its owner. This association of other elements with the primary excitation also happens when the primary excitation is peripheral, as the barking of a dog may lead to the dream that he is licking the sleeper's face. In regard to the laws which govern the arrange-

ment of the elements in dreams, the writer divides dreams into "passive" dreams and "active." In the former, which are the less elaborately ordered, more incoherent, dreams, the mind may be regarded as passive, and the sequence and arrangement of images is referable to the action of association complicated by the introduction of new initial impulses both peripheral and central. Such are dreams in which the sleeper seems to be the spectator of a pageant, or to be borne along by some extraneous force. The greater coherence of "active" dreams is due in part also to association, in the sense in which the latter is held to account for the arrangement of sensations in the waking life as elements of an external order having defined relations of situation, distance, &c.; in part to the disposition to united action among various parts of an organ of sense, and to the same disposition to united action among different organs; in part to volition—i.e. attention—which has been erroneously assumed to be dormant during sleep, but which acts in the fixing and holding of an image, or in the selection of one image among many. In some cases dreamers retain on waking a feeling of strain due to this exercise of attention. There are two principal motives to this attention: the impulse to seek unity and consistency, and the instinct for emotional harmony, in the dream elements. The first produces a reciprocal modification and fusion of the images; the second, which profoundly colours all our dreams, acts in two ways, by one dominant emotion making itself the centre of a group of images, and by the existence of affinities between certain feelings, so that they easily pass one into the other, and produce a common emotional tone. The most direct source for these emotions during sleep is the "organic" sensations, especially if painful. Lastly, the tendency to exaggerated emotion in dreams, entirely disproportionate to the bodily sensation causing it, and to the experience of waking life, and sometimes, especially in the case of terror, taking the form of a graduated succession of images, each more impressive than the preceding, is due to the limitation of the area of consciousness in dreaming; to the absence of any corrective comparison between feelings which we make when awake; to the fact that a feeling is in dreams isolated and hence undefined; and to the high degree of fusibility in the dream-images, which under the influence of a dominant emotion blend into a composite image of greater impressiveness than those of waking experience. One or two subsidiary observations conclude this interesting paper. Certain feelings, especially bodily sensations, have a tendency to present themselves uniformly under the guise of one kind of image—e.g., pressure on the heart under the image, say, of catching a train—the image varying according to the temperament and daily experience of the dreamer. The apparent withdrawal of the mind from the body in dreams is owing to the slight part played by ideas of touch in dreams as compared with those of sight or hearing.

THE *Monatsschrift für Geschichte u.s.w. des Judenthums*, edited by Dr. Grätz, continues its useful investigations on the later history and literature of the Jews. Students of the history of religion, especially of Christianity, might obtain many valuable notices from this little-known and very inexpensive periodical. Among the recent numbers we have a series of papers (not to say treatises) on the following subjects:—The Jewish Ethnarchs or Alabarches in Alexandria; the Intermingling of Myths in the Hagada; Fables in the Talmud and the Midrash; Date of the Pretended Letter of Aristæus; the Courts and Gates of the Second Temple; the "Second Targum" of the Book of Esther. "Alabarches," or rather "Arabarches," is shown to have the meaning of Governor of the Heliopolitan nome or canton, which belonged to the Arabian part of Egypt. Onias, the builder of the Judæo-Egyptian Temple, stood in high repute with King

Philometor, and apparently received the appointment of Arabarches. One of his official duties was to superintend the customs, and this brought him into relation with the harbour of Alexandria. The Jewish fabulists take a special pleasure in the serpent, who is represented (by a noteworthy development of doctrine) as a penitent sinner. The letter of Aristæus, according to Dr. Grätz, was forged by an Alexandrine Jew in the time of Tiberius. Its bad Greek proves that the Jews in Egypt, and even in Alexandria, were not at home in Greek writing as late as the beginning of the first century, A.D. Hence both the commencement and the bloom of Jewish Hellenistic literature must be placed later than is usually supposed.

THE recent numbers of the *China Review* contain many articles of considerable interest. Among others is a series of papers on the Chinese language, by Mr. Watters, whose Taoistic and linguistic contributions to literature are well known. His present essay, though containing little that is new to Chinese scholars, gives a complete and accurate résumé of the advances which have been made in the study of the language both by foreigners and natives. The editor, Mr. N. B. Dennys, contributes a paper on the Folk-lore of China, which furnishes additional evidence of the common origin of superstitious beliefs and tales. Spiritualism enters largely into Chinese folk-lore, and Mr. Dennys tells some stories of the very practical ends to which this agency is put by Chinese mediums which might shoot a pang of envy into the breast of Dr. Slade. An article on Phallic worship, by Canon McClatchie, presents the doctrines of Confucianism in a new and curious light, and, though at first sight some of the emblems employed in that religion may appear to support the Canon's theory, the freedom of Chinese literature and traditions from all taint of such impurities is sufficient to more than counterbalance the weight of the evidence brought forward by the writer. An account of an outbreak of a secret society known as "The White Feathers," which was probably a branch of the Great Hung League, by Mr. G. C. Stent, shows how incapable Chinese Secret Societies are of accomplishing more than banditti enterprises. Mr. Stent also contributes a translation in verse of a poem on an historical tree in the Palace grounds which was planted by the first emperor of the Ming Dynasty, and on which the last emperor of that line hanged himself. Among other articles are "The Expedition of the Mongols against Java in 1293 A.D.," by W. P. Groeveveldt; "Chinese Intercourse with the Countries of Central and Western Asia during the Fifteenth Century," by E. Bretschneider; "A Trip of a Naturalist to the Chinese Far East," by A. Fauvel; and several important reviews of recent works.

FOREIGN REVIEWS OF ENGLISH BOOKS.

- BEAL, S. The Buddhist Tripitaka. (India Office.) *Literarische Centralblatt*, Oct. 14.
DINDORF, W. Scholia Græca in Homerii Iliadem. (Clarendon Press.) *Revue Critique*, Nov. 11. By Ed. Tournier.
SMITH, George. Chaldean Account of Genesis. (Low.) *Theol. Literaturzeitung*, No. 23. By W. Bandissin.
SWETE, H. B. On the History of the Procession of the Holy Spirit. (Cambridge: Deighton.) *Theol. Literaturzeitung*, No. 23. By Dr. Gass.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

IN *Petermann's Mittheilungen* for November, Prof. Mohn, the able director of the Meteorological Institute of Norway, has published another very important study of the temperature of the sea between Norway, Scotland, Iceland and Spitzbergen. In this he has brought together and discussed the whole of the observations which have been made at the stations on these coasts between the years 1867 and 1875, reducing the results of these into six bi-monthly charts, showing by isothermal lines the average distribution of temperature on the sea surface, and thus placing his well-known investigations published in 1870 on a

more extended basis. M. Leo Metschnikoff contributes a full description of the new administrative divisions of Japan, which were introduced in 1871, but of which no complete account has hitherto been given.

M. PAUL SOLEILLET, an enthusiastic advocate of the extension of French commerce in North Africa, who in 1872-74 succeeded in reaching the oasis of Insalah from Algeria, has just published a little work, entitled *Avenir de la France en Afrique*, in which, after giving a good account of the commercial routes of the Sahara, and the means by which French traffic might be established along these, he allows his imagination to wander to visions of a railway from Algeria to Timbuctoo and St. Louis, the fertilisation of the Sahara by flooding it from the sea, and the abolition of slavery by re-peopling the desert.

Old New Zealand: a Tale of the Good Old Times, and a History of the War in the North against the Chief Heke, in the Year 1845, by a Pakeha Maori, with an Introduction by the Earl of Pembroke (R. Bentley and Son), is a series of sketches and descriptions of Maori life and manners of past times, vividly depicted scenes and incidents given exactly as they occurred. The "Pakeha," or white man, who writes the tale has lived so long a member of a Maori tribe as to have entered perfectly into the spirit and mode of thought and action of this strange people, now so rapidly decreasing in numbers, and initiates us fully into the meaning of the laws of the *Tapu* and *Muru*, and other institutions which formerly reigned with iron rod in Maori Land, yet with a literary skill which it is astonishing to find in a man who has lived from boyhood to old age among savages. The Introduction by Earl Pembroke is a severe retrospect of the New Zealand policy of Great Britain and of the radical misconceptions by which we succeeded in creating an imaginary Maori nearly as true to life as Fenimore Cooper's Indian:—

"I have heard (he says) several comments upon us and our policy from intelligent natives, none of them very flattering to our sagacity or consistency, but I will only give one which struck me as being a most striking comment upon a policy that aimed at conciliation, forbearance, and patient improvement of the Maori. 'You are a good people, but you have no fixed plan and no understanding either in matters of peace or war. No man can tell when you will fight or when you will give presents to buy peace, or at what sudden moment you will stop doing one and begin the other. No man can tell your reasons or the meaning of what you do.' . . . If these two little books should suggest to any careless Englishman that foreigners of dark complexion are not all like either those white men who seem to have got into brown or black skins by mistake, whom one reads about in anti-slavery books and some missionary reports, or those equally tiresome black dummies whom one reads about in another sort of book, who have no marked characteristic or intelligible custom except shooting spears and arrows at people for no apparent reason, I shall be glad to have introduced them to an English public; and let me assure those who care more for amusement than instruction that they will be amply repaid by their perusal."

We have received from the Agent-General for Victoria a copy of *Homes and Homesteads in the Land of Plenty; a Handbook of Victoria as a Field for Emigration*, by the Rev. James Balantyne (Melbourne, 1871), which is a well-known concise and trustworthy guide to every point which can interest an intending emigrant. In a flourishing colony like that of Victoria, however, the statistical facts must change very rapidly, and such a handbook as this requires an annual revision.

THEODORE VON HEUGLIN, whose death we recorded last week, was born at Hirschlanden, in Württemberg, in 1824, and first became well known through the publication of his travels in the region of the White Nile and Abyssinia, completed in 1854. He took a prominent part with Kinzel-

bach, Munzinger, and Steudner in the German Expedition of 1861-2 to the Egyptian Soudan and the frontier lands of Abyssinia—an expedition first set on foot with the object of finding traces of the lost traveller Vogel. Having reached Khartum again in July, 1862, Von Heuglin there met with the enterprising Dutch lady traveller, Madame Tinné, and, in place of returning to Europe, accompanied her expedition of 1863-4 to the swamp region of the Bahr-el-Ghazal, west of the Upper Nile. His last important journey was to the coasts of the Red Sea in 1875, in company with Herr Vieweg. Von Heuglin's very extensive and important contributions to the natural history and geography of Eastern Africa are chiefly contained in his *Travels in North-East Africa*, published in 1857; his *General System of the Birds of North Africa*, published in 1855; and in a long series of separate papers and monographs published from year to year since 1862 by the geographical establishment at Gotha.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Herald* gives an interesting account of a recent visit to the Island of Pootoo, off the China coast, which is entirely given up to Buddhism. No animals are allowed to be killed there, and neither fish nor animal food may be landed. Temples occupy the most beautiful spots, and everywhere shrines are built by the roadside, or Buddhas carved upon the face of the rocks. The government of the island is in the hands of the priests, and the rents from the land all go to the temples; in fact, though presents of tea, &c., are sent to Peking, the island is more like a dependency than an integral part of China. The few graves to be seen suggested to the visitor the practice of cremation; and not far from the largest temple, and near the beach, he found one of the furnaces, which consisted of a small room in the hill-side, arched overhead, the only peculiarity about it being an excavation in the rocky floor about the size of a small coffin, intended for the fuel, or to create a draught. The following is a brief description of the process, as given by a priest:—Three days after death, the body, seated cross-legged and enclosed in a box, is taken to the furnace. Fuel is placed round it, and after a suitable religious ceremony, the torch is applied, and the whole pile is soon wrapped in flames. It requires several hours and 400 pounds of wood to complete the process.

THE *Pioneer* states that Mr. R. B. Shaw, lately our envoy to Kashgar, is still engaged on his Report, and, when it is finished, he will return to Leh. Those parts of Mr. Shaw's Report which are of general interest will be made public, and a great deal of entertaining information is expected therefrom.

THE *Choya Shimbum* (a Japanese newspaper) says that an iron mine has been discovered in the sacred Koya-san. For many years it has been thought that this mountain contained iron, but the superstitious natives were afraid to mine it. One Yamahara, of Osaka, however, having recently found ore there, and being above superstition, has decided to commence mining operations forthwith.

THE reports on the zoological results of the Yunan and Yarkand Expeditions are well advanced in preparation. That of the former, by Dr. J. Anderson, of the Calcutta Museum, is now passing through the press, under the supervision in this country of Dr. Murie and Mr. R. B. Sharpe. The report on the Yarkand collections, in consequence of the lamented death of Dr. F. Stoliczka, the naturalist attached to the expedition, has been undertaken by Mr. W. T. Blanford and Mr. W. E. Brooks, the former describing the mammals and reptiles, and the latter the birds.

A CORRESPONDENT at Alexandria writes:—"I have seen no mention made of some curious, and probably early, Arabic places of worship which exist on the most prominent points of the eastern range of hills which bound the Nile valley behind Aguba and other villages below the first

cataract. They consist of circles of stones, about four or five feet high, put together with or without mortar and open at the top. These circles generally contain fragments of broken drinking-jars and a shallow earthenware pan in which incense has been burnt. They have, doubtless, succeeded still more ancient 'high places' of worship. Mustafa Aga, of Luxor, informs me that he has noticed a similar circle on the top of one of the mountains near Thebes. No writer on Egyptian antiquities seems to have faced the extraordinary fact that ancient Egyptian art begins as it were, and to speak generally, *full-blown*—that is to say, that the earliest known remains are as good as any which follow, and that no inferior remains exist which show a gradation from bad to better and from better to good. A scarab of Shafra, the builder of the second pyramid, or of Shoofoo, the builder of the first, is of as good work as one of Thothmes III. Nothing, it was thought, could exceed the fineness of the work of the superb statue of Shafra in the Museum of Boulak, but it is equalled by the statues of the young man and his wife discovered in a tomb near the so-called 'False Pyramid,' which are referred by M. Mariette to a very much earlier period. In fact, the false glass eyes of these statues can in point of naturalness and execution be excelled by the work of no succeeding age. If inferior works of art ever existed, one may well ask, in a country where everything is indestructible and where the area is so small, where are they? . . . It is much to be wished that some steps could be taken either to remove or to reinstate in its proper position the splendid colossus of Rameses, which now lies on its face in a hole at Memphis, and which is stated to belong to England. Whatever doubts may exist as to the removal of the prostrate obelisk at Alexandria, there can be none that this monument would well repay the expense of transportation to England. A curious mode of interment has been brought to light in the new railway-cutting about three miles from Alexandria, in the mounds not far from the banks of the Mahmoudieh Canal. Here the bodies were buried in long earthenware pots of a dark red colour. Those I saw lay with the heads towards the east. These interments appear to belong to the Roman period."

AMONG the official reports to the Foreign Office lately issued will be found an interesting account by Colonel Playfair, Consul-General in Algeria, of a tour made by him through the regency of Tunis, a country rich in historical interest, but very little known to the modern traveller. At Zaghouan is to be seen in all its beauty one of the greatest works the Romans ever executed in North Africa—the aqueduct conveying the waters of Zaghouan and Djougur to Carthage. This was commenced by Hadrian, destroyed by Gelim, the last of the Vandal kings, and restored by Belisarius, the lieutenant of Justinian. Again destroyed by the Spaniards under Charles V., it was reserved for the present Bey, Sidi Saduk, once more to restore this ancient work, with the aid of the French engineer, M. Collin. Near Djebbel Trozza, about 380 feet above the level of the plain, is a remarkable fissure in the limestone rock, called by the natives El Hammam, or the Bath. It descends vertically from a spacious recess or cave to a depth of about twenty feet, when it widens out into a chamber filled with hot vapour. The travellers had no means of testing its temperature, but it was considered to be not much under the boiling-point of water. No fire or water is ever seen, but the vapour rises continuously, and appears to be simply heated air, without the addition of sulphurous gases. The natives have great faith in its remedial effects, and come to it from great distances for the cure of rheumatism and other similar affections. Nowhere throughout the regency of Tunis is a Christian permitted to enter a Mohammedan mosque. Were it possible to visit the Djamaa el Kebir of Kerouan, the antiquary would find much to interest

him. The exterior has no architectural pretensions, but in the interior there are said to be many Latin inscriptions, nearly 500 marble columns derived from Roman buildings in various parts of the country, and a very remarkable collection of ancient armour, some of which is supposed to have been captured from the Byzantine soldiers by the early Arab conquerors. It seems that the great difficulty and unpleasantness of travelling in this country arises from the fact that, without an order from the Bey, no one will show any hospitality towards a traveller at all; and even then it is with ill-concealed reluctance that the officials supply his wants. Colonel Playfair's account is accompanied with a capital chart of Tunis, on which the route taken is carefully noted.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

III.

The Sea of Ancient Ice.

ONE of the very interesting subjects of investigation connected with the discoveries of the Arctic Expedition is that relating to the ancient ice met with north of Robeson Channel, which is similar to that described in Admiral Sherard Osborn's *Discovery of a North-West Passage*. We used to call this ancient formation "McClure's ice," for want of a better name, but a special name is much needed to obviate confusion, and to distinguish this ice from ordinary old pack. The name palaeocrystic was adopted by the officers at the time; but for present purposes I will use the expression "the sea of ancient ice." By ancient I mean the ice many years old of the area about to be defined, as distinguished from the old pack-ice met with in any other sea.

It now appears that this sea of ancient ice is of much greater extent than was supposed by Admiral Sherard Osborn. We know that it extends from near the coast of North America to the north-west extremity of Prince Patrick Island, a distance of 420 miles. There is then an unknown gap of about 420 miles from Prince Patrick Island to Aldrich's furthest, which is probably occupied by islands and coast-line. Thirdly, there is the coast-line discovered by Captain Nares, extending over about 300 miles from Aldrich's to Beaumont's furthest. We thus have a line extending from the American coast to Beaumont's furthest, in a north-east and south-west direction, for a distance of 1,140 miles, upon which this ancient ice rests.

The sea of ancient ice was first seen by Captain McClure when, on August 19, 1850, the *Investigator* ran into apparently open water off the mouth of the Mackenzie river in a north-eastern direction. But it was soon discovered that they were running into a trap in the main pack, consisting of ice of stupendous thickness, the surface rugged with the frosts and thaws of centuries, and totally unlike any ice ever met with in Baffin's Bay and adjacent seas. They ran up the blind lead in this dangerous ice for ninety miles; but, fortunately, the ship was put about in time, and escaped before the ice closed. There were no two opinions in the ship as to what would have been her fate if the floes had closed upon her.

In August, 1851, the *Investigator* passed along the west coast of Banks Island, and Captain McClure again had opportunities of examining the sea of ancient ice. The pack was of the same fearful description as that encountered in the offing of the Mackenzie river, at least eighty feet thick. The surface of the floes resembled rolling hills, some of them 100 feet from base to summit; and the edge of this wonderful oceanic ice rose in places from the water as high as the *Investigator's* lower yards.

Captain Collinson, in the *Enterprise*, also passed along the southern flank of the sea of ancient ice, and his description agrees with that of his second in command. In the spring of 1854, when wintering at Camden Bay on the coast of North America, Captain Collinson made

an attempt to travel over it with a sledge. He came upon it at a distance of about seven miles from the ship, but he found it to be of such a character as to render all travelling impracticable. His sledge was broken, one of the men fractured his thigh, and he was obliged to return after a few days. McClintock and Meham found the same ancient ice along the west coast of Prince Patrick Island. Meham terms this ice "tremendous;" and no one who has travelled elsewhere in the Arctic regions has ever met with similar oceanic ice. Along the coast discovered by Captain Nares the same ice was met with, not as a narrow belt along the shore, but becoming worse and more formidable to seaward, and composing the whole surface of this palaeocrystic sea.

The officers of the *Alert* had longer and better opportunities of carefully examining this most important phenomenon in physical geography than had ever been afforded to previous explorers, and their observations on this point form not the least valuable part of the results of the Expedition. The ice was from eighty to one hundred and fifty feet in thickness, judging from the height of the portion above water; and the surface was rugged in the extreme. Apart from the masses of hummocks thrown up during disruptions, the surfaces of some of these ancient floes were broken into hills and dales, the hills varying from ten to fifty feet in height. This, of course, must be the result of ages of drift, and of alternate frost and thaw. The floes far out to sea were infinitely heavier than those nearer the coast. The formation of this palaeocrystic sea is analogous to the well-known course of formation of glaciers. Year by year layer after layer is added to the upper surface, the lower layers becoming harder, owing to the superincumbent weight, until they are converted into snow-ice. The method of this formation was studied by means of the huge masses, well termed floe-bergs, which were cast upon the beach. Some of these were split by the frost, offering complete sections, which were carefully drawn. In some instances they showed lines of darker colour, at distances of many feet from the existing surface, indicating sections of the pools of water and intermediate rises which, during some far-distant summer, had been on the surface.

Such a sea as this is never navigable, but there was the clearest evidence of frequent, if not annual, disruptions. The vast masses of hummocks, thirty to fifty feet high, and sometimes a quarter of a mile wide, which occur at frequent intervals and divide the ancient floes, are evidence of very violent encounters between the floes; and mud found on the ice some miles from the shore is also a proof of movement. The ice traversed by Captain Markham consisted of ancient floes of small extent and very uneven surface, separated by lofty ranges of rugged hummocks, and there were occasionally narrow streams of this year's ice, that is about five feet four inches thick, connecting the floes. The drift-wood which was found on Prince Patrick and Banks Islands, and also on the scene of Captain Nares's discoveries, is likewise a proof that the palaeocrystic sea is subjected to movements the exact nature of which is uncertain; for this drift-wood must have come from the banks of Siberian rivers.

At the same time the periodical disruption is clearly only partial, and the movement of a particular floe is but slight during one season. For there is no sufficient outlet, apparently, for the ice of this sea. The age of the ice is a sufficient proof of this. Sherard Osborn describes the sea of ancient ice as "a vast floating glacier-like mass, surging to and fro in an enclosed area of the Arctic region." It is bounded on the south by the shores of North America; on the east by Banks and Prince Patrick Islands, Grant Land, and the north coast of Greenland; and on the west by Kellett Land and other unknown obstacles north of the Siberian coast; so that it has an area of about 1,200 miles both from south to north, and from east to west.

Its movement is slight, and the *Enterprise* and *Investigator* observed that it never moved off from the shore more than a mile or two, and then surged back again. The known outlets to the sea of ancient ice are very narrow. Fragments, forming great ice-streams, pour through Banks Strait into Melville Sound, but they never get west of Griffith Island, and are never seen in Barrow Strait. They appear to fill up McClintock Channel, which can never be navigable. Here Osborn saw them in May, 1851, and he describes the floe as of great antiquity, and as like a heavy cross sea suddenly frozen solid, the height of the solid waves being twenty-five feet. Allen Young reached Osborn's point of observation, and formed the same conclusion. He actually attempted, like Collinson, to travel across this palaeocrystic floe, but found it quite impracticable owing to the rugged nature of the ice.

Thus two explorers had attempted to tackle the ancient ice before the memorable journey of Captain Markham—namely, Sir Richard Collinson and Captain Allen Young, and they can well appreciate Captain Markham's difficulties, and the severity of the struggle he entered upon.

There is another outlet for the sea of ancient ice by Robeson Channel, but it is very narrow, and the ancient and heavy floes do not get much further south than Lincoln's Bay in 82° N. Lat., or thereabouts, according to the season. The *Polaris* did not encounter them; but the *Alert* was at one time actually beset in ancient floes off Cape Lincoln, before rounding Cape Union, and was in great danger. Their size and position in the strait would vary according to the season. Fragments of the ancient ice, no doubt, stream down the south coast of Greenland and round Cape Farewell; and it would be a matter of great interest to explore the east coast from Cape Bismarck to Beaumont's furthest, in order to ascertain the limit of the sea of ancient ice in that direction, and the causes which obstruct a freer flow of the ice which now, from want of an adequate outlet, continues to grow in thickness and ruggedness.

It was over this sea that Markham and Parr attempted to force their way; and by dint of perseverance they and their gallant followers, in spite of such difficulties as no other advancing sledge party (except those of Collinson and Allen Young) ever before encountered, achieved a position which will make their journey memorable for ever. Considering the character of the ice, the distance they made good was, as Capt. Nares truly says, marvellous. They advanced the Union Jack and their own standards to a point north of which no human being has ever put his foot.

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM.

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- BARROT, Odilon. *Mémoires posthumes de*. T. 4. Paris: Charpentier. 7 fr. 50 c.
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BLUNTSCHLI, J. C. Lehre vom modernen Stat. 3. Thl.
Politik als Wissenschaft. Stuttgart: Cotta. 10 M.
GEMMINGER et B. de HANOLD. Catalogus coleopterorum hucusque descriptorum synonymis et systematicis. Tom. XII.
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Leipzig: Brockhaus. 3 M.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EARLY COINS OF BOKHARA.

St. Petersburg: Nov. 1, 1876.

In Nos. 227-229 of the ACADEMY you have printed three notices of the Petersburg Congress of Orientalists, in the last of which, at p. 315, the author of those notices, Mr. Brandreth, gives a kind account of my statement regarding the coins of the rulers of Bokhara, struck before the Arabian invasion, and imitated, with some modifications, by the magistrate of the city under the government of the Khaliphs, Samanides and Kharlookh Turks. Besides a fragment of the Pehlevi inscription which was in use on the obverse of the Sassanian coins of the first half of the fifth century, the early section of the said coins of Bokhara, being an imitation of the former coins, bore on the obverse an inscription consisting of eleven characters which I assigned to the *Soghdian* alphabet mentioned by the Arab en-Nedim, author of the *Fihrist*. These eleven letters were deciphered by me, and represent the words *Bukhâr-Khuddâh*, or, "Lord of Bokhara." These words, and not "Kudan Bukhar," as given by my friend Mr. Brandreth, are the title of the princes of Bokhara before the Arabian conquests in Transoxiana. Mr. Brandreth also ascribes to me a statement that a similar title is applied by contemporary Chinese authors to the princes in question. I fear I must have been misunderstood by my honourable colleague at the meeting, since I do not remember having said anything of the kind; on the contrary, I have stated that the title of "Lord of Bokhara" is often quoted, besides *Narshakhi* (not "Narshaki"), my principal authority in this matter, by other Arabian historians and geographers, as Ibn-el-Athir, Khokdabbeh, Istakhrî, Ibn-Hauqâl, Mokaddesi, who render this title *Bukhâr-Khuddâh* or *Bukhâr-Khuddâh*.* The History of the Chinese Thang-dynasty gives to the ruler of Bokhara the title "Maowoo," the same which other Chinese sources give also to other princes of Transoxiana, and does not know the title cited by the Arabian authors. P. LERCH.

DR. SCHLIEHMANN'S DISCOVERIES AT MYKENAE.

Oxford: Nov. 13, 1876.

Every student of Greek history and antiquities ought to take a profound interest in Dr. Schliemann's recent excavations at Mykenae. The city of Agamemnon, "king of men," the centre of so many myths and legends, is one of the few relics that have come down to us of the prehistoric period of Greece. No one can look at the huge, well-cut blocks of conglomerate of which the walls are formed, or at the so-called Treasury of Atreus, or at the lions carved in limestone over the great gate of the town, with their Assyrian features and Oriental design, without concluding that the dynasty which reigned at Mykenae must have been both powerful and rich. Mykenae shows a great advance upon the rude architecture of the neighbouring Tiryns, an advance which, perhaps, implies several intervening centuries of culture and civilisation. What struck me most

* Most of the geographers cited also mention the peculiar specimens of dirhems which in the time of the Samanides were in circulation on the markets of Bokhara.

there was the Eastern character of the place; the sculptures over the main entrance might have been carved by an artist of Esar-haddon, and the site of the city was strewn with fragments of Phoenician pottery.

According to Dr. Schliemann, the walls belong to three distinct periods, the oldest portion being the underlying part which resembles the architecture of Tiryns. They surrounded the Acropolis, the lower city extending to the south-west, and being still marked by traces of cyclopean walls and other remains. One of the most curious results of Dr. Schliemann's excavations is the discovery that the city was rehhabited after its capture by the Argives in B.C. 458, although its very site had been so completely forgotten by Strabo's day that he declares no vestiges of it were in existence. The new Mykenae seems to have lasted about two centuries; at all events, the fluted vases found among its rubbish are of the Macedonian era, and come down to the second century B.C. Below the later city lie the ruins of the Mykenae of Homer, and these have already yielded an immense number of objects to Dr. Schliemann's workmen. Bronze, as might have been expected, is very abundant, while stone implements, including two hatchets of diorite, and iron keys, arrow-heads, and knives, have also been met with. Some glass beads, like the pottery, indicate trade with Phoenicia. Fragments of a lyre and a flute, as well as of a crystal vase and a wooden comb, have also been found. Great quantities, too, of terra-cotta images have been dug up. Some of these represent either the whole figure or the head of a cow, and Dr. Schliemann believes that he sees in them a confirmation of his theory that *Βούκρης* = *Ἦρη* was a cow-headed divinity. Dr. Schliemann's drawings, however, make me feel a little doubtful as to whether a cow was really intended; the animal seems rather male than female. Besides the terra-cotta "cows" there are rude representations of the goddess whom M. Lenormant (*Gazette Archéologique*, ii., 1 and 3) has identified with the Artemis Nanaea of Babylonia, as well as of a male divinity with a long Assyrian beard. Perhaps the most peculiar of the terra-cottas is a frequently-recurring one with a long handle above which two horns protrude, and above these again comes a neck surmounted by a disk in the shape of a bowl. The neck is provided with eyes and nose, and two breasts are placed between the horns. From Dr. Schliemann's drawing I should infer that the object was not an idol but was applied to some other use. Along with these figures were found also those of an old and ugly woman, of horse-heads, of a lion, of a ram, and even of an elephant, which again indicates intercourse with the East. The ornamentation of the pottery is elaborate and various, and many of the vases are painted inside and out. A favourite pattern seems to be one which consists of broken wavy lines, a specimen of which I picked up at Mykenae four years ago.

Only three inscriptions, or what look like inscriptions, have been discovered: one on a disk, another on the figure of a goddess, and the third on two portions of the hind part of a "cow." The characters apparently belong to the Phoenician alphabet, but their cursive and indistinct forms make it impossible to read them. I have been struck by their resemblance, however, to the *graffiti* found on the *kelebe* of two quadrigae discovered in the Etruscan cemetery of La Certosa by Signor Zannoni. Certain wavy lines on the broken neck of a vase, one side of which is ornamented with two breasts, may also possibly turn out to be intended for writing. However this may be, the form of the letters in a short Greek inscription which reads *το ηρωος-εμ (του ηρωος-εμ)* may, Prof. Max Müller thinks, serve to fix the date of some of the buildings.

Among the most interesting objects exhumed are a series of tombstones between four and five feet high, many of which are adorned with sculpture like the tombstones found in the Etruscan

necropolis of La Certosa. The sculptures are archaic in character, and probably belong to the same age as that over the Gate of the Lions. The latter, I am convinced, is of later date than the Gate itself. The Treasury of Atreus makes it clear that a triangular space was left over a gateway in early Mykenean architecture by way of ornament; in the case of the Lions' Gate the triangular space has been filled up by a block of blue Messenian limestone which very nearly fits it. On one side, however, the stones of the wall have had to be cut away to make room for the intruder, while on the other side small stones have been inserted to fill up the vacant space between the wall and the sculptured stone. The tombstones are generally divided into two compartments, one of them bearing the representation of a warrior in a one-horse chariot, the form of which exactly resembles that of the chariots represented on the Assyrian bas-reliefs. The wheel has four spokes, and in the case of one of the tombstones, a drawing of which lies before me, the chariot is provided with a spear-head or scythe protruding from behind. The horse is drawn somewhat spiritedly, with widely extended legs, and in front stands a man on foot with a long lance. In the lower compartment are two circles with spiral ornaments, which are executed with mathematical accuracy. On another tombstone the warrior in the chariot holds a broad sword in one hand and a lance in the other, with which he is piercing the neck of a nondescript animal, whose horn is grasped by a man with a long sacrificial knife. The sculpture irresistibly reminds us of some of the early Babylonian gems.

Some interesting painted vases with the usual drab ground have further been found in a cyclopiian dwelling-house, representing warriors in tunic, girdle-belt, greaves, and sandals, and armed with a lance and crescent-shaped shield. In the same locality have also been discovered several other curious remains, among them a fount for casting the mysterious terra-cotta disks, and a large and well-engraved onyx stone.

Close to the Lions' Gate Dr. Schliemann came across the fragment of a quadrangular red porphyry column with an oblong space in the centre and a rose at each end, as well as the fragment of another porphyry column and a frieze of hard limestone, each adorned with spiral ornamentations. It must be remembered that the column was characteristically Babylonian, and that columnar architecture has nowhere been carried to such perfection as among the Assyrians.

Many fresh discoveries of interest may be expected to result from the excavation of the great *tholos* or tomb opposite the Lions' Gate which Dr. Schliemann is at present engaged upon, and where he has already found that the triangular space over the entrance must have once contained a sculptured stone similar to that over the great gate of the city. The tomb is analogous to the "Treasury of Atreus," excavated by Veli Pasha in 1810, an undertaking which shows that the Turks are not so insensible to the claims of archaeology and art as our Slavophiles would wish to make out. Sculptured slabs were found in the "Treasury" similar to those discovered by Dr. Schliemann. It may be noticed that the spear heads incised upon the stone posts of the entrance to the "Treasury" resemble those sculptured on Dr. Schliemann's tombstones, and were probably the emblems of royalty.

A. H. SAYCE.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

SATURDAY, Nov. 18.—3 P.M. Crystal Palace Concert (Mdlle. Mehlig)
3 P.M. Saturday Popular Concert.
MONDAY, Nov. 20.—3 P.M. British Architects.
8 P.M. Monday Popular Concert.
TUESDAY, Nov. 21.—7.45 P.M. Statistical.
8 P.M. Civil Engineers.
8 P.M. Herz Franke's Fourth Concert, Langham Hall.
8.30 P.M. Zoological: Papers by Messrs. G. B. Sowerby, E. R. Alston, A. G. Butler, and Prof. Garrod.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 22.—3 P.M. Society of Arts: "Collapsible Boats," by the Rev. E. L. Berthon.
8 P.M. Royal Society of Literature: "On two Saxon MSS. in the British Museum," by W. De Gray Birch.
THURSDAY, Nov. 23.—8 P.M. Royal Albert Hall Choral Society (*Stabat Mater* and *Hymn of Praise*).
FRIDAY, Nov. 24.—5 P.M. Quckett.

SCIENCE.

THE VEDA AND ITS INFLUENCE IN INDIA.

Vedārthayātna; or, an Attempt to Interpret the Vedas. (Bombay, 1876.)

(Second Notice.)

PEOPLE have sometimes asked why there is as yet no complete translation of the *Rig-Veda*. First of all, there is one, or, one may say, there are two complete translations—one by Langlois in French, the other by Sâyana in Sanskrit, and from it, in English, by Wilson. Wilson's translation is not quite complete, but there is only one volume wanting to complete it. Besides these, there are in separate essays or in periodicals translations of a large number of really important hymns by Roth, Benfey, Bollensen, myself, and others. Roth, who was best qualified to give us a German translation, has not yet done so; but a small collection of hymns—six translated by Roth, thirty-one by Geldner, thirty-three by Kaegi—has lately been published, and some more are to be found translated into English in the volumes of Muir's *Original Sanskrit Texts*. It is easy, in fact, with the materials now accessible to translate the easy hymns; but what is really wanted, at least by scholars, is not only a translation, but a justification, and, more particularly, an explanation of really difficult passages. This is what I attempted in my translation of the *Rig-Veda*, of which the first volume was published in 1869; and, now that I am free again, I hope to continue that task. In the meantime, two other translations have made their appearance, one by Prof. Ludwig, the other by Prof. Grassmann. Both constitute most valuable contributions, and as they are both the result of original and independent study, they are valuable, not only where they agree, but also where they differ. We hear of other translations which are in preparation, and they will all be welcome. There is work enough for many workers, if only they will work according to a well-defined method. What we do not want any more is guesswork, however ingenious, such as we find in Langlois' and other translations. But a careful analysis of the varying meanings of words, an intelligent exposition of the whole structure of certain hymns, and an elaboration of the characteristic features of each deity, will always constitute valuable contributions to Vedic scholarship.

While all this work is going on in Europe, it may be interesting to know what view is taken of it in India. It has sometimes been supposed that in India itself the *Veda* is antiquated, that its deities have been replaced by more popular modern names, its sacred traditions exchanged for Panrânik legends, its precepts supplanted by the Smritis of Mann, and its whole authority destroyed by a different faith. There is some truth in this, but no more than if we were to say that in Roman Catholic countries the worship of the Virgin and Saints had taken the place of the old Christian worship, that the morality of the Bible had been superseded by the prescriptions of modern codes of law, and the authority of our sacred books overruled by the decisions of Popes and Councils. No doubt, among the 240 millions in India there are

but few who can read the *Veda*, still fewer who could understand it correctly. But the tradition of Vedic theology exists unbroken in the country, and those who are recognised as the leaders of religious thought would be as much horrified at the idea of seeing the authority of the *Veda* overruled, as even the most infallible of Popes would be, were he asked to overrule any passage in the New Testament. Whatever the ignorance of the priests may be, there is to the present day no recognised authority on religious matters equal to that of the *Veda*. Everything, law-books, philosophic systems, Purânas and Tantras must bow before the *Veda*. It was but natural, therefore, that the publication of the *Veda* in England, and the studies connected with it, should react on the theology of India. The *Veda* had never been printed in India; it existed, as stated before, in MSS., but chiefly in the oral tradition of the schools. It was considered too sacred a book to be profaned by the press, and for a long time, while every other Sanskrit text was allowed to be printed at the native presses, an exception was made in the case of the *Rig-Veda*. My own edition was under various pretexts represented as impure, and, though it was used by scholars, it never was allowed to take the place of a MS. copy. For several years, however, there have been indications in native papers that the interest in the *Veda* and in a critical study of the *Veda* is increasing. Some of the younger Pandits, who still combine some of the advantages of the old native system of studying Sanskrit with the instruction they receive in the Government Colleges at Calcutta, Bombay, Poona, or Madras, placed from time to time the results of the European study of the *Veda* before their compatriots. They soon began to take an active part themselves, to criticise the works of English Orientalists, and to contribute valuable essays from their own pens. At last some of these young students and religious reformers have combined to bring out a native edition of the *Rig-Veda*, and its commentary, with a translation in Marâthi and English, and notes in the former language. The title of the work is *Vedārthayātna*—i.e. an attempt to find out the meaning of the *Veda*. Three numbers have been published, containing twenty-two hymns. The object of the editor is social and religious rather than philological. While

"there are thousands of Brahmans," he writes, "who know the whole of the *Rigveda* by heart, and can repeat it in *Samhitâ*, *Pada*, *Gatâ*, *Ghava*, and *Krama*, without making any mistakes [these are different methods of learning the *Veda*, by either reciting each word separately, or by repeating the words in various complicated ways], there are probably not more than a dozen who have ever attempted to understand what the *Veda* contains. There are quite as many who can repeat the *Yagus* and also the *Sâma Veda*, though *Atharva-Vedis* are very few, at least in the Bombay Presidency."

With regard to the authority of the *Veda*, and the influences which it still exercises directly or indirectly on the religious life of India, a young Brahman writes to me:—

"The sanctity of the Vedic texts is as great as it ever was. The belief that the *Vedas* contain all that is great, good, and divine, and that all

they contain is great, good, and divine, is little shaken, except in the minds of a few educated men in and about the Presidency towns. The masses, and most of the higher classes, firmly believe that the *Veda* contains the authority for all that is enjoined and all that is prohibited to the modern Hindu. Widow marriage is believed to be prohibited by texts to be found in the *Veda*. The monstrous division into thousands of little communities of caste is believed to be supported by the *Veda* in all its modern rigour, which prevents a Brahman from drinking water touched by a Brahman of another subdivision, and requires him to purify himself by ablutions, if he is touched by the shadow of a Mahâr or Atisûdra. All customs, all usages, all stories, all laws, are believed to be based on Vedic texts. Even things which can easily be shown to have no pretence to any antiquity whatsoever, are represented as based upon Vedic texts."

Those, therefore, who endeavour to introduce any social or religious reforms among the natives are constantly thwarted by the *Veda*, and the spell which it still exercises on the native mind, the people clinging fast to the belief that what their fathers did or abstained from doing was ordained by the *Veda*. The translation now offered to the natives in Sanskrit, Marâthi, and English, is chiefly intended to show what the *Veda* really contains, and especially to prove that those texts which are supposed to authorise modern rites and beliefs among the people, do not authorise them. To this object the greater part of the notes are devoted. Thus the verse i. 6, 3, "*Ketum krinvan aketave*" is repeated in a ceremony now performed to avert the ill-will of the imaginary planet Ketu. An ignorant priest, who only knew how to repeat the verse, at once connected the *ketum* of the verse with the planet Ketu, and accordingly taught that all the Purânas tell about Ketu was authorised by the *Veda*. A note of the translator fully explains this, and shows the simplicity of the religious conceptions of the Vedic Rishis as compared with those of their modern interpreters.

We are told that, if the authority of the *Veda* is regarded as invulnerably sacred, the belief that it is impossible for any human being not inspired like the old Rishis, to interpret the *Veda*, is almost as invulnerably firm. Hence the editor has adopted the following plan. He gives first the *Samhitâ* text of the *Rig-Veda* with the *Pada* text, because the Vaidik Brahmans regard the *Samhitâ* text alone as quite incomplete. He then gives a translation based as much as possible on the recognised commentary of Sâyana. He does not however, follow Sâyana slavishly, but if he finds that the explanation of a word which that infallible commentator gives in one passage is impossible, he takes, whenever he can do so, another explanation of the same word given by the same writer in some other passage, thus shielding his departure from Sâyana by the authority of Sâyana himself. This rendering of the *Veda* into Sanskrit is chiefly intended for the old Shâstris, who despise all vernacular speech, and who would be repelled still more by English. The Marâthi translation will find its way to the educated classes among the natives; the English is intended for that small but important class of Indian society which has adopted the language of the ruler as the *lingua franca* of

the day. It is to be hoped that this important work may be continued, though it will probably take at least ten years to finish it.

It is pleasant to see the liberal tone in which these young native reformers acknowledge their indebtedness to European scholarship.

"I need hardly say," the editor writes, "that this attempt of mine [the *Vedārthayātna*] would have been impossible but for your *Editio Princeps* of the *Rig-Veda*, with Sāyana's commentary. I must further say that such a translation as is given in the *Vedārthayātna* would have also been impossible but for the labours of Sārmanya Pandits like you and the compilers of the Petersburg Dictionary. My text is taken from your editions."

We thus see how intimately our purely philological labours at home are connected with the important problems that agitate the Indian mind. The *Veda* is still the heart of the religious life of India, and if it ceases to beat, something else must take its place. The schism which lately took place in the Brahma Samāj turned chiefly on the question whether the *Veda* should still be considered as the vital source of religious belief, or whether a new authority, the voice within, should be recognised as the only true *Sruti* or revelation. The edition of the New Testament by Erasmus appeared to many a mere feat of scholarship; it turned out to be the harbinger of a Reformation. The first edition of the *Rig-Veda* was meant for students only; it may turn out to have brought on a crisis in the religious belief of India, which must end in death, or in a new life.

F. MAX MÜLLER.

CURRENT SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE.

The Five Senses of Man. By Prof. Julius Bernstein, of the University of Halle. International Scientific Series. (Henry S. King and Co.) The intimate connexion that exists between the organs of special sense and the cerebral mechanism underlying our mental processes is becoming more and more universally acknowledged every day. Owing to this tendency of modern metaphysics, there is a large and increasing class of persons among the reading public who find some acquaintance with the physiology of the nervous system to be an indispensable preliminary to the intelligent study of writers on the philosophy of mind. It is to such readers, principally, that the present work is addressed. Without being popular in the unfavourable sense of the word—without, that is, trying to excite an unreal interest in his subject-matter by the stimulus of rhetorical amplification or illustrative anecdote—Prof. Bernstein makes no undue demand upon the reader's familiarity with the technical commonplaces of physical science. The information he gives may be thoroughly relied upon; and his account of such comparatively difficult topics as the perception of colour, the phenomena of ocular accommodation and refraction, and Helmholtz's researches on the sense of hearing and the nature of musical sounds, leaves nothing to be desired in the way of clearness and accuracy. It is right to add that the author's meaning has not been obscured by ignorance or carelessness on the translator's part. Indeed, the translation, for the work of an anonymous writer, appears to us to be of unusual merit.

Essay on the Use of the Spleen, with an Episode of the Spleen's Marriage: a Physiological Love Story. By P. Black, M.D. (Smith, Elder and Co.) It is not very easy to make out whether the accomplished author of this rather fanciful

brochure desires it to be viewed as a mere *jeu d'esprit*, or as a serious contribution to our physiological knowledge. After some pungent and not wholly undeserved strictures on the amazing confusion of opinion concerning the functions of the spleen, which has hitherto been the only fruit of the experimental removal of this organ, Dr. Black proceeds to settle the vexed question on purely anatomical grounds. The blood returning through the splenic vein mingles with that brought from the digestive tube by the meseraic veins, and the blended currents proceed through the portal vein to the liver. The discerning function of this important gland requires more blood for its due performance than the veins coming from the intestinal tract are able to supply. Hence the necessity for an additional volume of blood, drawn from a special cistern in immediate connexion with the portal trunk. This cistern is the spongy parenchyma of the spleen. Simple and rather bare as this hypothesis appears to be when reduced to its fundamental elements, we should be doing injustice to our author were we not to add that he clothes it in many-coloured raiment of poetic fancies and metaphysical subtleties. The "Spleen's Marriage" is the union of the meseraic with the splenic blood; the former likened to the maiden Ruth, who, after gleaning in rich corn-fields, returns from her labour, her hands laden with the fruit of her industry. Charles Lamb, evidently a favourite with Dr. Black, should have been alive to read his essay; he might have made more out of it than a generation of physiologists whose sense of humour has been dulled by much reading of German *Beiträge*.

Handbook of Rural Sanitary Science. Edited by Lory Marsh, M.D. (Smith, Elder and Co.) About a year ago the editor of this work offered a prize for an essay on certain points connected with rural sanitation. The prize was awarded by Mr. Bailey Denton, C.E., and Mr. James Howard, of Bedford, to Mr. Gardner, whose essay occupies about half of Dr. Marsh's volume. The remaining half is made up of condensed abstracts of three other essays considered by the adjudicators to be worthy of honourable mention. The chief subjects dealt with are: the means of securing a supply of pure air and water for cottage dwellings, and the removal and utilisation of refuse, with especial reference to the powers of the Local Government Board, and the organisation of rural sanitary authority. Although it can hardly be said to contain very much in the way of original suggestion, the book gives a clear notion of the objects to be kept in view by those public-spirited country gentlemen whose belief in sanitary progress is sufficiently active to overcome a natural indisposition to expenditure not obviously or immediately productive. Mr. Gardner's sanitary ideal is not placed too high above the possibilities of every-day life, and he does not damage his case by exaggerated notions of the benefit to be expected from the universal adoption of the earth-closet system. On one important point the editor and his contributors are all agreed—viz., that the existing arrangement of sanitary areas is simply chaotic. "Simplification of areas and authorities," said Mr. Stansfeld, "was the object of the Act of 1872;" and he added that sanitary law can be effectually administered only "by securing the intelligent co-operation of local representative bodies." On this Mr. Cresswell very justly remarks:—

"The theory is admirable, but the facts are against us. We have at present neither simplified areas nor authorities; and Diogenes with his lantern would search in vain to discover any trace of 'intelligent co-operation' among the frequent townships, hamlets, chaperies, lighting and paving districts, and other 'ancient and unobtrusive' communities which are interspersed without sympathy or cohesion throughout the country."

The truth appears to be that a sanitary area should stand in some definite relation to the physical configuration of the country; for it is

on this that the solution of all problems connected with the disposal of sewage and other refuse, the supply of water for household purposes, &c., must primarily depend. The administrative difficulties in the way of the application of this principle might be overcome by vigorous action on the part of the central authority. Experience has abundantly proved that the obstacles arising from the conflict of petty local interests, from anxiety to deal tenderly with vested rights, from the ignorance and want of imaginative foresight so generally exhibited by elective bodies, can only be surmounted by the exercise of a certain amount of salutary despotism.

Sanitary Work in the Smaller Towns and in Villages. By Charles Slagg. (Crosby Lockwood and Co.) This little book, by an engineer, deals neither with the medical nor the administrative aspect of sanitary science, but with the means of carrying out those purposes which are generally admitted to be of primary importance to the maintenance of public health. Sanitary improvement in a village or small town means an outlay of money, an outlay which it is often difficult to meet. Hence the need of mechanical contrivances of a simpler and less expensive kind than those adopted in wealthy and populous centres. A large number of such contrivances are described by the author in language not too technical for the ordinary reader. The book is divided into three parts. The first is devoted to some of the more common forms of nuisance, such as pig-styes, slaughter-houses, &c., with the remedies appropriate to each case. The second deals with drainage; the third, with water-supply. The directions given will be of service, not merely to rural boards, but to the individual householder who is prudent enough to look into the operations carried out on his premises by bricklayers and plumbers, and energetic enough to force the rudiments of sanitary engineering on their reluctant minds.

Cup and Platter, or Notes on Food and its Effects. By G. O. Drewry, M.D., and H. C. Bartlett, Ph.D., F.C.S. (Henry S. King and Co.) This is a compilation of very elementary facts about our food and drink, with an introductory chapter on diet. The weakest part of the book is that which deals with the relation of particular articles of diet to special forms of disease. For instance, it is hardly correct to say that the malady of infant life known as rickets is due to a lack of phosphate of lime in the food, or to attribute *goutre* to an excess of lime in the water habitually drunk by those affected. A few hints on the relative value of different articles of diet, and the more usual methods of adulteration, may be of use to the writer of the next cookery-book. Upon the whole, however, it is not easy to make out for whose benefit the work is intended. Everything it contains—including even its blunders—is thoroughly familiar to the chemist and the physician; while its style is too insufferably dry to attract the general reader.

Fresh Air in the House and How to Secure It. By James Curtis, C.E. (Ward, Lock and Tyler.) A rather wordy pamphlet to recommend the systematic ventilation of all dwelling-rooms by a double system of vertical pipes, one of which admits a downward current of pure air from above the roof of the house, while the vitiated air makes its escape up the other. Continuity of flow is provided for by a difference of temperature, and therefore of specific gravity, between the ascending and descending columns. There is nothing very new in this suggestion. It is not so much to a lack of practicable methods, as to the ignorance of builders and the carelessness of a majority of the public, that the inadequacy of the provisions made for keeping the air we breathe up to a reasonable standard of purity must be ascribed.

SCIENCE NOTES.

ASTRONOMY.

Scintillation of the Stars.—M. Montigny has continued his researches on this subject with especial reference to the influence of the approach of rain on the twinkling of the stars. Eighteen hundred observations referring to seventy stars have been discussed, two hundred and thirty nights having been devoted to this work with the scintillometer, already described in these columns. The conclusions at which M. Montigny arrives are as follows:—1. At all times of the year the scintillation is more marked under the influence of rain. 2. Under all circumstances it is more marked in winter than in summer, and also in spring than in autumn for wet weather; in dry weather the spring and autumn are nearly equal in this respect. 3. Scintillation varies with the atmospheric refraction. 4. The approach of rain, and especially its continuance, affect the intensity of scintillation. 5. The amount of rain is always greater on the second of two days than on the first, but it is less in winter than in summer, and the more marked scintillation in winter results, therefore, from the increased density of the air due to the low temperature and high barometer. Similar conclusions are arrived at by grouping together the observations according to the intensity of scintillation, eighty-six per cent. of the days with very marked scintillation being under the influence of rain. The twinkling of the stars appears also to be very marked in windy weather, and strong scintillation is a sign of an approaching storm, the colours being more decided in the case of rain, and accompanied by irregularities in the image. It is to be remarked that this is the case notwithstanding the fall in the barometer corresponding to a decrease in the density of the air, which would naturally diminish the scintillation. As might be expected, the altitude at which twinkling first becomes sensible is increased by the approach of rain.

The Variations of Gravity.—The pendulum observations made in India have shown that there is a deficiency of attracting matter under that great continent, and this conclusion is borne out by a comparison of the geodetic and astronomical longitudes of stations on the east and west coast, from which it appears that the ocean bed exercises a stronger attraction than the raised land. In the *Astronomische Nachrichten* Herr Hann calls attention to this, and also to the circumstance that oceanic islands show an excess of attraction which cannot be accounted for by the nature of the rock of which they are composed. The theory that there are great cavities under the large continents appears hardly tenable, and the more probable supposition would seem to be that they rise above the sea-level by virtue of their specific lightness, floating perhaps like icebergs surrounded by a floe, with the molten liquid under a thin crust. There are, however, difficulties connected with precession and nutation and tides in a fluid interior, all of which Sir W. Thomson has pointed out, and we can only wait for further data. The balance of evidence, however, seems now to have changed, inclining to the hypothesis of a moderately thin crust with fluid or semi-fluid interior.

The Transit of Venus, 1882.—Prof. Bruhns has calculated the circumstances of this phenomenon, taking Leverrier's tables of the sun and Venus as the basis of his computations. This transit will be visible in England, but the best stations for determination of the parallax will be in America, and in the islands of the Southern Ocean. The experience gained in 1874 will be invaluable for these observations, for which it is to be hoped that all nations will again join in fitting out expeditions. In preparation for this, Prof. Bruhns has done good service in calculating from the best tables the circumstances of the transit.

PHILOLOGY.

THE eleventh volume of the *Hermes* concludes with an important number, almost entirely taken up with discussions on points of Greek scholarship. Gomperz publishes, from Hayter's copy of the original, the Herculanean fragment of Polystratus *περί ἀλόγου καταφρονήσεως*, an important contribution to our knowledge of Epicureanism. The fragment of a Greek comedy recently discovered by Tischendorf, and assigned by Cobet to Menander, is discussed both by Gomperz and by Wilamowitz-Möllendorf, who christens the lost play *The Pessimist*. Zeller has a weighty paper on the controversy between Theophrastus and Zeno on the eternity of the world, and a shorter one on Chaeremon and Horapollo. Gardthausen ("Die Tachygraphie der Griechen") discusses the date of the introduction of shorthand writing among the Greeks. R. Neubauer completes (from a fragment misplaced among the Delian inscriptions) the catalogue of *ἐφηβοί* in the *Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum*, No. 281, besides contributing an essay on the chronology of the Attic archons from 138–171 A.D. There is an interesting paper by Niese on the documents quoted in Josephus, *Arch.* xiii., 14–16. Eberhard contributes some notes on Moschopolus *On the Magic Squares*, and J. G. Droysen on Duris and Hieronymus. The only contribution to Latin scholarship is Freudenbergs article on Aurelius Victor.

THE most important original papers in the two last numbers of the *Neue Jahrbücher* (Fleckeisen and Masius) are (vol. cxiii. and cxiv., part 8) A. Schäfer's on the Roman consulate, and Lüttger's on the date of the defeat of Varus: in the following number an essay by E. Wilisch on the fall of the Bacchiadae at Corinth, Reuss' paper on Agis and Aratus, and Förster's concluding article on Libanius. Among the reviews in these two numbers may be noticed especially Gutschmid on Baudissin's *Studien zur Semitischen Religionsgeschichte*, Christensen on Lange's *De patrum auctoritate*, and Eussner on Ulrich's *Agricola of Tacitus*, in the 8th part; in the 9th, Gotschlich on Döring's *Kunstlehre des Aristoteles*, Langen on Schöll's *De accentu linguae Latinae*, and Dunger on Merzdorf's edition of *Troilus Alberti Stadensis*. In the educational section of part 8 Hess concludes his review of Kern's *Ludwig Giesebrecht*, and Pröhle continues his publication of the correspondence of Lessing, Eschenburg, &c. There are three interesting educational papers in this number: Eiselen on the present system of school certificates, "L. G." on the best method of introducing boys to the study of Greek art, and Fischer on the reform of the Gymnasia. In the following number Erler has an interesting paper on "Seminaries for Teachers in the Higher Schools," and Pansch discusses the best means of solving the "religious difficulty" in Gymnasia and Real-schulen. There are two contributions to the discussion of German orthography, an independent essay by Lohmeyer, and a review by Kohl of Sander's *Vorschläge zur Feststellung einer einheitlichen Rechtschreibung für Alld Deutschland*. Hultgren contributes the first instalment of a metrical translation of Tibullus's elegies to Delia.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY.—(Saturday, November 4.)

PROF. G. C. FOSTER, President, in the Chair. Dr. Guthrie read two letters which he had received from Dr. Forel, in reference to the "Seiches" or periodic oscillations which take place in the Swiss lakes. Since his communication he has found, in a pamphlet by Dr. J. R. Mérian, published in 1828, a formula which is strictly applicable to the phenomena under consideration. If t be the duration of half an oscillation, h the depth of the lake, and cl its length—

$$t = \sqrt{\frac{\pi l}{g}} \left\{ \frac{e^{\frac{\pi h}{l}}}{e^{\frac{\pi h}{l}}} + \frac{e^{-\frac{\pi h}{l}}}{e^{-\frac{\pi h}{l}}} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Considering that probably this formula will be applicable to lakes of irregular depth if h be the mean depth, he has applied it to several with satisfactory results. In the case of Lake Wallenstadt, the formula having shown the mean depth to be somewhat greater than the generally accepted greatest depth, Prof. Forel took a number of fresh soundings and found a great basin of comparatively even bottom, and of such a depth as to render probable the mean depth given by the formula.—Dr. Stone exhibited some diffraction gratings, on glass and metal, ruled for him by Mr. W. Clark, of Windsor Terrace, Lower Norwood. The majority of them were close spirals about 1,000 to the inch, which, when held between the eye and a distant lime-light, exhibited circular spectra of great brilliancy. The metal gratings were of linear form, 1,000 lines to the inch, intended for use by reflection in a spectroscope. The spectra thus obtained were of much greater brilliancy than those ordinarily obtained by refraction, and presented obvious advantages for examining the ultra-violet rays.—Dr. Guthrie then briefly described some experiments which he has made to determine the effect of a crystalloid on a colloid when in the presence of water. Two or three lumps of rock salt were added to a jelly of size, and the whole hermetically sealed in a glass tube. The colloid parted with its water readily, a saturated solution of the salt was obtained, and the size became perfectly white and opaque. Experiments were also made, employing a more hygrometric salt, such as chloride of calcium.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY.—(Tuesday, November 7.)

DR. S. BIRCH, President, in the Chair. The following papers were read:—1. "Memoir of the Life and Labours of the late George Smith," by W. St. Chad Boscawen; 2. Notes on the Hymyritic Inscriptions contained in the Museum of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bombay," by Capt. W. F. Prideaux; 3. "Further Notes and Observations on the preceding Inscriptions," by Dr. Heinrich Müller; 4. "On the Writings of Ephraem Syrus," by the Rev. J. M. Rodwell. The writings of Ephraem, the Syrian deacon, generally, whether as commentaries or metrical homilies, offer numerous points of contact with the Holy Scriptures, not only through the affinity of Syriac to the Hebrew, and with reference to the *usus loquendi*, but directly as commentaries upon the sacred records. The Nisibean Hymns have a peculiar interest of their own. They throw light upon that peculiar point of history when Christianity was struggling with the ancient idolatries of Assyria, and when the orthodox Churches of the East had much to suffer, not only from the heathen, but at the hands either of persecuting or Arian emperors. The earlier Nisibean Hymns were written when Sapor II., king of Persia, was laying siege to Nisibis. The peculiar metres in which the hymns are written open a very interesting field for consideration, as it is quite possible that they were primarily suggested by, if not derived from, the rhythmic structure of the Davidic and other Psalms.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—(Tuesday, November 7.)

PROF. NEWTON, F.R.S. Vice-President, in the Chair. The Secretary read a Report on the additions that had been made to the Society's menagerie during the months of June, July, August, and September, 1876. A letter was read from Dr. Otto Finsch relating to the supposed existence of the wild camel (*Camelus bactrianus*) in Central Asia. A letter was read from Mr. E. Pierson Ramsay, giving a description of the habits of some *Ceratodi* living in the Australian Museum, Sydney, which he had lately received from Queensland. Mr. W. K. Parker read a memoir on the structure and development of the skull in the sharks and rays. Prof. A. Newton made a correction of some of the statements in Canon Tristram's "Note on the Discovery of the Roebuck in Palestine." Lieutenant-Colonel Boddome gave the description of a new species of Indian snake from Manantawaddy, in the Wynad Hills, which he proposed to name *Platyplectrurus Hewsoni*. Dr. G. E. Dobson communicated a monograph of the bats of the group *Molossi*. Dr. A. Gunther, F.R.S., read a Report on some of the recent additions to the collection of mammalia in the British Museum, among the more remarkable of which was a new form of porcupine from Borneo, proposed to be called *Trichys lipura*; and a new marmoset, obtained

by Mr. T. K. Salmon, near Medellin, United States of Columbia, to which the name *Hapale leucopus* was given.

ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.—(Tuesday, November 7.)

H. C. SORBY, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair. A paper by the Rev. W. H. Dallinger was read, entitled "Experiments with Sterile Putrescible Fluids exposed alternately to an Optically Pure Atmosphere and to one charged with known Organic Germs of extreme minuteness." The previous researches of Messrs. Dallinger and Drysdale had shown that when one of the fish-macerations they employed was allowed to dry up and become brittle, the powder from it contained germs of some of the remarkable monads they described, and which would develop under favourable conditions. In the present experiments they used an air-chamber after Tyndall's plan, and tested it for motes by a beam of oxyhydrogen light. The germs were obtained from a maceration of haddock's head that had been kept for fifteen months, and found to contain a supply of the "springing and calycine monads" of their former papers, many of them in a condition for emitting spores. A portion of this material was dried at a temperature of 150°, and subsequently kept for ten minutes at 145°, being five degrees higher than the heat the adult forms could stand. Dust from it was diffused through the Tyndall chamber, and after the heavier particles had settled in the course of four and a half hours a light-beam passing through it was found "less brilliant, but more uniform than in the air outside the chamber." Ten small glass basins filled with Cohn's Nutritive Fluid, freshly prepared, were then introduced: six being open, and four covered with glass lids. In this condition they were left for four-and-twenty hours, and then, by a contrivance which avoided all risk of admitting extraneous matter, the lids were removed from the four covered vessels. After four days the first six vessels were examined: calycine monads were found in all, and in smaller numbers the springing sort. Two days later the four vessels were examined: in three there were no calycine monads, and very few in the fourth; all exhibited the springing monads. The calycine monads produce larger germs than the springing sort, and the probable explanation of the above facts is that the largest and heaviest germs settled down first from their state of suspension in the air, and that few were left to fall into the four vessels when their covers were removed. A fresh set of experiments confirmed this view.—Another paper described a new refractometer by Dr. Pigott. The instrument, which may be seen in the Loan Collection at South Kensington, is able to measure the refractive power of thin glass plates or other refractive bodies. It is founded upon the principle of the well-known experiment by which the image of a coin at the bottom of a basin is raised by pouring water over it. By very delicate screw movements the exact height to which the image of a small appropriate object is raised by the interposition of a refracting substance can be read off by inspection.—Mr. Wenham, on the same evening, contributed a paper "On the Measurement of the Angle of Aperture."

LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.—(Thursday, November 9.)

PROF. H. J. S. SMITH, F.R.S., President, in the Chair. The reports of the treasurer and secretaries having been read and adopted, the following gentlemen were elected to form the council for the ensuing session:—President, Lord Rayleigh; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. C. W. Merrifield, Smith, and W. Spottiswoode; Treasurer, Mr. S. Roberts; Hon. Secs., Messrs. M. Jenkins and R. Tucker. Other members:—Profs. Cayley and Clifford, Messrs. T. Cotterill, J. W. L. Glaisher, the Rev. R. Harley, Drs. Henrici and Hirst, Messrs. A. B. Kempe and J. L. Walker.—Lord Rayleigh, having briefly returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him by the Society, called upon Prof. Smith to deliver his valedictory address "On the Present State and Prospects of Pure Mathematics." On the motion of Prof. Cayley it was resolved that the address should be printed in the Society's *Proceedings*.—Mr. Glaisher communicated a "Note upon Certain Identical Differential Relations."—The secretary read parts of papers by Mr. Spottiswoode "On

Curves having Four-point Contact with a Triply Infinite Pencil of Curves," and by Mr. E. B. Elliott "On some Classes of Multiple Definite Integrals."

NEW SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY.—(Friday, Nov. 10.)

F. D. MATTHEW, Esq., in the Chair. The thanks of the meeting were voted to Lord Derby for his present of 750 copies of "Stafford's Examination of Men's Complaints in 1683;" to Mr. Richard Johnson for his present of 750 copies of the revised text of "*The Two Noble Kinsmen*," edited by Mr. Harold Littledale, Part I. (and Part II. when ready); to Mr. C. —, Mr. Furnivall, and Miss Phipson for their present of 750 copies of the *Tell Troth*, Lane, and Powell volume; and to Mrs. Bidder, Mr. L. —, and the Rev. Stopford Brooke for their gifts of 10l. 10l. and 4l. 4s. respectively to the reprint of Prof. Spalding's Letter on *The Two Noble Kinsmen*.—Mr. Furnivall made a statement of some length as to the work at press and in hand for the Society, and said the Committee wanted 1,000l. a year instead of 500l. to produce the books needed. He then read a paper on "The Character of Hamlet not entitled to the Admiration often bestowed upon it." He believed that, as most folk got their idea of Satan from Milton and then said it was from the Bible, so many made their own ideal of Hamlet and then declared it was Shakspeare's, though there was no foundation whatever for it in Shakspeare's text. Folk pitied Hamlet, then they loved him, then they glorified him, and turned a shirker of duty, a do-nothing, a putter-forward of specious subterfuges, into a Christian warrior and hero. Nothing was too good for him in Werder's eyes, and several English critics'. Mr. Furnivall followed Hamlet somewhat pitilessly through his whole career, from his mooning and spooning, instead of watching and acting, after his father's death; through his weakness after weakness and his subterfuge-full excuses for them; in staying at Court, in vowing that he would "sweep to his revenge," and then making notes on his tablets, saying he would go pray, dawdling, turning stage-manager, brutally jeering at Ophelia, quoting ballads and calling for a tune—like an overgrown schoolboy when his trick has succeeded—instead of killing the king at the end of the play; then mouthing rant about drinking hot blood, &c., and, of course, shirking his duty again directly after; then pretending that Heaven had made him stab Polonius, over whose corpse his brutal jeers must come again; still dawdling when he returned to Denmark, straying into graveyards, engaging in fencing-matches—anything to shirk his duty; at last letting Claudius's own plot, not his, work out the king's destruction, Hamlet at last stabbing him, not because he had murdered his brother, but because (1) he had poisoned Hamlet himself; (2) because he was "incestuous, murderous," therefore "follow my mother." Mr. Furnivall contended that whatever virtues Hamlet had, he basely and persistently shirked his duty, which was just a bore to him, and made mean subterfuges to excuse himself. Even at last, it was not as a duty to his father that he killed his uncle; and his friend, Horatio, put forth no such pretence in his behalf. He spoke

"Of accidental judgments, casual slaughters . . . And, in this upshot, purposes mistook Fall'n on the inventors' heads."

Yet we all pity, nay like Hamlet. This is because he typifies each one of us. Weak, shirkers of duty, we all are; but in so far as we are so, we are not to be admired; we are to be despised. In the discussion Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bayne, Miss Toulmin Smith, Mr. Matthew, Mr. Jarvis and others took part.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.—(Friday, November 10.)

This was the first meeting after the recess, Dr. Huggins, the President, being in the Chair. Sir George Airy gave an account of the progress of his Numerical Lunar Theory, and exhibited some of the printed sheets of figures, which had required a peculiar arrangement on account of the large number of terms involved.—Mr. Dunkin then read a paper by Mr. Langley on the effect of sun-spots on climate, the chief question being whether the increased activity when the spotted area was a maximum did not more than make up for the loss of heat from the spots themselves. With reference to the variation of climate, Sir George Airy alluded to the observations of the underground thermometers at

Greenwich, and to the attempts he had made to connect the temperature of the soil with the yield of wheat.—In reply to the President, Mr. De La Rue stated that the measures of the sun-spots on the photographs taken at Kew were nearly completed.—Mr. Christie read a paper on the effect of wear in micrometer screws; and Mr. Penrose then described at some length a method which he proposed for taking account of the ellipticity of the earth in the reduction of lunar distances. It appeared, however, that this method had been in use for the last thirty years at Greenwich, and Mr. Marth claimed that it had been invented some years previously by Bessel.—A binocular eyepiece was then described by Mr. Thornwaite, and its action exhibited on a Newtonian reflector; after which Mr. Christie referred to the spectroscopic observations of the motions of stars and of Venus, and of the rotation of the sun and Jupiter which had recently been made at Greenwich, and mentioned a photometric observation of the gradation of light towards the limb of Venus, confirming a previous observation by Mr. Brett.—Several other papers were presented, among them being one by Mr. Finlay on the calculation of an occultation, and observations of a lunar eclipse by M. Arcimis, and of a solar eclipse by Mr. Tebbutt.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—(Monday, November 13.)

SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, K.C.B., President, opened the forty-seventh session of the Society with an inaugural address, in which he referred first to the return of the Arctic Expedition, and expressed an opinion that it had proved the impracticability of the Smith Sound route to the Pole, and dispelled the theory respecting an open Polar Sea. The fact that the British flag had been carried to a point within 400 miles of the Pole was a subject of congratulation, as to be first in such a struggle proved the possession of some of the best and highest qualities of our race. Sir Rutherford then announced that the work of the expedition would form the subject of an evening meeting of the Society at St. James's Hall on December 12, and that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would preside. The President next touched upon the value of Cameron's researches, which, following upon those of Livingstone, had shown that legitimate trade by practicable routes could be established, settlements made, and the slave-trade suppressed. Mr. Stanley had contributed greatly towards solving the geography of the lake region by his circumnavigation of the Victoria Nyanza. After reference to the efforts of the various missionary bodies to found mission-stations in Africa, Sir Rutherford spoke of Colonel Gordon's work and the exploration of Lake Albert by M. Gessi. Mr. Stanley had been enabled to visit the southern end, and had found that it stretched further south than suspected by M. Gessi. The step taken by the King of the Belgians during the recess was a most important one. The great expense of the Cameron expedition had proved that, if Central Africa is to be opened to civilisation and commerce, it must be by a united international effort. At the invitation of his Majesty a Congress was assembled at Brussels, and this resulted in the establishment of an International "Committee of Civilisation and Exploration of Central Africa," to be supplemented by "National Committees" to be formed in each country. The King had consented to be first President of the International Committee, and it remained for the National Committees to be effectively constituted. That for Belgium had already been created, H.R.H. the Count of Flanders being at the head, while H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had consented to accept the post of President to the Committee forming in this country. A meeting at Glasgow had passed resolutions in favour of the establishment of a Scottish branch of the British National Society, with a view to the formation of a road from the northern end of Lake Nyassa to the south end of Lake Tanganyika, and also from the northern end of that lake to the coast at a point north of Cape Delgado. After anticipating some of the results that might be expected within a short period were public co-operation secured, the President went on to speak of the recent Oriental Congress at St. Petersburg, and of Colonel Sosnofsky's expedition through North-Western China, which had proved that the route by way of Lanchau-fu to Zaïssan is 1,400 miles shorter than the Kiachta one; that it is per-

fectly fit for wheeled vehicles, and passes through a populous, fertile and well-watered plain, three days only being passed in arid steppes. The importance of a route which would convey Russian goods from Novgorod and Orenburg by way of Semipalatinsk through Mongolia, and thence to China and the Amur, was quite apparent. The President announced that, in furtherance of the plan for the encouragement of the study of the scientific side of geography (for which a grant of 500*l.* per annum had been set aside by the Council), it had been arranged that not less than three lectures, by persons of recognised attainments, should be delivered each session. General Strachey had agreed to give the first lecture, on the general subject of "Geography in its Scientific Aspect;" Dr. Carpenter would deliver the second, on "The Physical Geography of the Ocean;" and Mr. Wallace the third, on "The Influence of Geographical Conditions on the Comparative Antiquity of Continents, as indicated by the Distribution of Living and Extinct Animals."—A paper was then read by Sir Douglas Forsyth, K.C.S.I., on "The Buried Cities of the Gobi Desert, Eastern Turkestan," a notice of which we are compelled to defer till our next number.

FINE ART.

Finger-Ring Lore; Historical, Legendary, Anecdotal. By William Jones, F.S.A. (London: Chatto & Windus, 1877.)

A WORK, by competent hands, on the history and archaeology of those digital adornments about which, not only so much poetry and sentiment, but so much mystery and so much delegated authority have clustered, from almost the earliest period to our own matter-of-fact and levelling times, has long been a desideratum to students of antiquity and history.

The varied handicraft displayed upon these, for the most part, small objects offers an equally rich field to the thoughtful observer of artistic excellence in invention and manipulation, and needed more careful and systematic illustration than the subject has hitherto commanded. True, we have Mr. King's learned remarks in his works on *Antique Gems*, &c., but these are in company with, and surrounded by valuable dissertations on other, although cognate, subjects, and are but limited. Mr. Fairholt, again, although not always accurate—as who can be?—had given us his "Facts about Finger-Rings" in the *Art Journal*, since republished with other essays in a pretty volume entitled *Rambles of an Archaeologist*; and much gossiping matter had been got together, mingling truth and error, in Mr. Charles Edwards' (of New York) *History and Poetry of Finger-Rings*, 1855.

The earlier works exclusively devoted to the subject, or to branches of it, such as those of Licetus, Gorlaeus, of Kirchman, Aringhi, Longi, Kornmann, Curtius (or De Corte), &c., are few, and old, and rare. Other literature of the subject must be sought in ponderous tomes by the earlier writers on antiquities of various countries and places; in later times it is to be found as separate occasional notices and papers in the publications of Antiquarian Societies and in some periodicals. But a thoughtful classification deduced from typical forms and ornamentation in relation to the periods and localities of their production, and their respective uses, is yet wanting.

A great deal of matter has been assiduously culled by Mr. William Jones in the volume of over 500 pages now before us, but, we may ask, does it answer perfectly to

the acknowledged want? and has that matter been sifted and digested by one who is conversant, not only with the statements he has collected, but also with the technicalities and characteristics of the objects of which the volume treats, and by which knowledge such statements may be more or less analysed? Is his work sufficient to make it a trustworthy book of reference for the learned, and a handbook to the student? or is it not rather a compilation of a popular nature?

The general reader will doubtless be amused by the curious anecdotes and scraps of history with which the volume is well stored, and many of which had been lost sight of or forgotten; to him much information will be conveyed. It is, in fact, a collection of fragments—some rich, some of worthless material—gathered together, from which a true artist, knowing their respective value, might have formed, with scientific method, a choice mosaic of well-adjusted and well-harmonised design and solidity: this book is rather a conglomerate of mixed and ill-adjusted pebbles.

We wanted, not so much an additional gathering of heterogeneous material, as its careful analysis and recrystallisation, purified and combined by the skill of one who, having gained special knowledge by the intelligent examination and comparison of many hundred specimens of all periods and countries, stimulated by pure love of the subject, and aided by a natural gift of observation and inference, would have been able to compose a work of the highest authority. There are, perhaps, hardly more than half-a-dozen men in England capable of such; that by Mr. Jones falls too far short of so high a standard to satisfy those who can appreciate the importance of this branch of archaeological enquiry, although it may be welcomed by the general reader. Finger-ring lore is a special subject, requiring special treatment, and implies a knowledge of rings as well as of their history.

Passing his first chapter, for the while, we can with more pleasure dwell on those that follow. As might be expected from some remarks in the preface, the second, treating of "Ring Superstitions," is the best part of the book. In this chapter Mr. Jones has collected together a large amount of curious narrative and anecdote on the mystical value of rings inscribed with cabalistic formulae, or set with stones of healing virtue; and, although much was already familiar to those who have taken interest in the subject, to the majority of readers it will present matter that is new and interesting.

The contents of this and of the following chapters may have the effect of drawing more attention to an engaging subject, and may waken a desire with many to study more minutely and observe more intelligently the numerous varieties of finger-rings preserved in those public and private collections to which they may have access. For all this the writer deserves thanks; and if he has only gathered fruit from orchards that are known, its collective exhibition in the literary market is a claim for commendation.

We dare not venture to quote from among so many, but prefer referring those for whom curious superstitions and poetic fancies may

have a charm to the book itself. We may be permitted, however, to point out a few of the weak points and omissions. There is no allusion to that early practice, referred to by Boldetti, of letting rings down by a cord through the upper grating, that they might touch and thence convey healing and other virtue from the sarcophagus of St. Peter, to the fortunate person to whom such a ring might be sent by the then Pope.

Of the so-called ring of the Blessed Virgin at Perugia we may remark that in form it is of a well-known type of later Roman times, as those cut from a single piece of Zaffarine chalcedony, or carnelian (not all of which are corded). The quoted correspondent of the *Standard* is wrong in describing it as "a plain gold circlet, large enough for any man's thumb." And, by the way, the history of this ring given in Patrick's *Devotions of the Roman Church* was derived by him from Jo. Bap. Lauri's work *De annulo pronubo Deiparae Virginis* (1622).

The chapter on Investiture is also well done, full of interesting matter, beginning with the Royal Signet and alluding to its use in conferring different degrees of nobility, the confirmation of charters, &c.; also grants of land and its conveyance through the agency of the lord's ring, and similar facts and anecdotes. Whether the "evidence" "subscribed" at the purchase or Hanameel's field was sealed with his finger-ring or with a signet suspended to the wrist is, however, open to question.

On Ecclesiastical Rings Mr. Jones has gleaned abundantly from Mr. Waterton's published papers on the *Annulus Piscatorius*, on Episcopal rings, &c., and those of other writers, but to what extent he has perused or may be indebted to the valuable notes made by that pains-taking antiquary in the MS. catalogue of his own collection, we know not, as he makes no acknowledgment or allusion to such a work. That volume was secured by the writer for the South Kensington Museum, at the time when, at his urgent recommendation, the Waterton Dactylitheca, of some six hundred specimens, including gems in modern settings, was purchased by the authorities of that institution, and is now preserved in the Art Library. We think that Mr. Jones's work would have been more useful had he generally acknowledged the authorities from whom he has, more or less judiciously, compiled, by giving exact references to names, works, and dates. He throws no further light upon the still vexed question of the large so-called Papal rings of the fifteenth century of gilded bronze, the most complete series of which is owned by Mr. Octavius Morgan: some of hitherto unknown type have been taken to America by Signor Castellani. There is much information also in this chapter on the rings worn by ecclesiastics, nuns and others, as also upon rings of religious significance, iconographic decade rings, &c., but why the Indian ring, set with an inscribed turquoise surrounded by ten rubies, should have been referred to as a pious Christian's tangible remembrancer for ten *Aves* and a *Paternoster* we cannot see. The type is not unusual in India, the surrounding stones varying in number and encircling sometimes a cluster, sometimes a

single stone, and frequently a mirror (the *chury* or *cheery*).

Among the numerous cuts on pages 268 to 273, illustrative of Early Christian rings, one only is credited to the private collection in which all, with a single exception, are preserved; a somewhat ungracious omission, the more so as the blocks from which these illustrations were printed, with some others, were gratuitously lent for the purpose, and, as it happened, inadvertently, without the consent of those most interested.

The English rings of the thirteenth century, some of which are referred to as episcopal and "stirrup-shaped," on page 230, may probably also have been worn by abbots, or even by nuns: the double ones of the same form were, possibly, holy sisters' espousal rings. We object to the term stirrup-shaped as applied to this form—a somewhat oval circlet rising to a point on which the stone is set—rather, they are pyriform; whereas certain Egyptian and archaic Greek rings are distinctly stirrup-like in make, a flat and elongated oval bezel, to the pointed ends of which a straight-shanked loop is attached.

St. Ursula's ring at Cologne, referred to at p. 259 as "of very early date," is of beautiful workmanship and much worn; but it happens to be a *fédé* ring of the later years of the fourteenth century, probably Italian, the nearly obliterated and illegible inscription round the hoop being in Lombardic lettering.

The excellent chapter on Betrothal and Wedding Rings will be perused with much interest, especially by the ladies; that on posy rings might with advantage have been included. The long list of posies gathered together by Mr. Jones is an important and valuable feature of his volume, and the returning fashion for their use will necessitate a frequent reference to it. We notice, however, that he does not refer to the rare Umbrian ring of the fifteenth century in the Waterton collection, inscribed in niello ERVNT . DVO . IN . CARNE . VNA .; two of similar make and period are before us, on one is the trite sentence *AMORE . VOLE . VOLE . FE ., on the other *CHI . CANBIA . LOCO . DE . CANBIARE . VZANZA. All three are from Perugia. It will be noticed how rarely English posy rings of the last century bear Latin mottoes. We know a heavy one inscribed with the self-sacrificing words QUI . DEDIT . SE . DEDIT. It may be doubted whether some of the rings supposed to be betrothal, or wedding, from their bearing the joined hands or *fédé* in relief, and inscribed with the sacred name or monogram, may not rather have been of a devotional character, perhaps espousal rings of nuns wedded to the service of Christ.

The ring figured at p. 314 is one of the well-known Madeira gemmal rings of modern make, and that at p. 318 is of those nielloed *fédé* rather than gemmal rings, of which fine examples are in the Waterton and the writer's collections.

Many curious and romantic scraps of history and fiction in which the ring plays an important part, with the occasional assistance of spiritual agency, are well put together in the chapter on Token, Memorial, and Mortuary Rings, and will be found amusing

and instructive. Of the memorial rings of Charles I. perhaps the finest that has come under the writer's notice belongs to Canon Dayman, some of whose ancestors suffered much in the royal cause. *Apropos* of the martyred monarch, it seems curious that he should have provided himself with a mortuary ring of nearly a century anterior date, and on which the letters M and L are interlaced, to give, on the scaffold, as a memento to the good Bishop Juxon, if the family history be true. With still less security could we endorse the Borgia signet (p. 434), without better evidence than itself can offer.

It has been said that no one reads a preface. Sometimes, however, it may serve as a gauge by which the depth and brilliancy of the contents may be estimated. That by Mr. Jones shows, too soon, the open joints of his armour; after confessing that it was "in going through a wide field of olden literature" that he had discovered the fact—already well known to antiquarians and art lovers—that there is "so much of interest in connexion with rings," he tells us how it is important as bringing various subjects "to our notice by invaluable specimens of glyptic art." What has "glyptic art" to do with the fashioning, the enamelling, or other enrichment of a puzzle, a decade, a jewelled Renaissance, or a hundred other ornamental rings, antique and modern? That term is applied, but perhaps with doubtful correctness, to the art of the gem-cutter in intaglio or in cameo—the *sculptor*, not the goldsmith who sets the stone in iron, silver, or in gold, as a signet ring for his patron, or a graceful pendant for some matron's neck.

In the first chapter, after a long foot-note about the supposed "Joseph's ring," we have a series of extracts from Scripture applying to signets, some of which may have been rings, but more were not. Then we are told that the earliest rings are of pure gold, and, further on, that their earliest use was doubtless as signets: we cannot think so. Egyptian and Etruscan scarabs are stated to have been generally used for rings: we believe that their use in *colliers* and other ornaments was equally or more abundant. Quoting approvingly Mr. King's statement, which may, perhaps, have been intended relatively, that Etruscan rings of gold are very rare, Mr. Jones shortly after, and more correctly, refers to their frequent occurrence. At p. 19 we read of Etruscan rings—

"They are frequently found with shields of gold and of that form which we call Gothic—that is, elliptical and pointed—called by foreigners *ogive*, with raised subjects chiselled on the gold, or with onyxes of the same form, but polished and surrounded with gold. There are some particular rings which appear more adapted to be used as seals than rings, and they have on the shields relieves of much more arched and almost Egyptian form."

We pass over other errors of this passage, and ask ourselves whether Mr. Jones will argue, from this "Gothic" discovery, that pointed architecture had its origin in Etruria or Egypt?

In short the whole of this account of Egyptian and Etruscan rings is inexact and insufficient; moreover, it is painful to meet

with such phrases as the "stomach" of a scarabæus, "mineral stones," and "the Etruscans, the ancient inhabitants of Italy," as though there were none other; &c. &c.

By the note to p. 48 Mr. Jones concludes that Lord Bolingbroke's ring referred to by Swift was of amber; was it not rather a ring set with a piece of amber in which a gnat was embalmed, a rare curiosity at that day, and doubtless brought from Catania?

The portion of the chapter devoted to Anglo-Saxon rings is more satisfactory, but we cannot see why a figure of one of the "Martin Luther" rings should be introduced among them at p. 64. "The gold Middle-Age ring," of rare form, figured at p. 71, is of silver gilt, not gold; it and others of similar type on pp. 79 and 257 are German rather than French; another such, but larger, and inscribed, is in the writer's possession. But we must refrain from further notice of errors in this chapter, which ought to form the back-bone of the work, but the bulk of which is derived from Fairholt and from King, without discriminative judgment.

Glancing at the last chapter, on "Remarkable Rings," which might well have followed immediately upon the first, where some equally remarkable are noticed and figured, we find again more faith than discrimination. Mr. Jones rightly quotes, almost *verbatim*, Mr. Soden Smith's notice of the more remarkable rings in the Devonshire Collection. He ought to have known that archaeologists decline to believe that the "Darnley Ring" is genuine, or the "Rienzi Ring" to have been that of the Tribune. The diamond signet in the Royal Collection, said by Mr. King to have been made for Charles II. when Prince of Wales, turns out to be that of his unhappy father. The ring of Roger of Sicily is not unique; others precisely similar, and probably of equal modern antiquity, have from time to time appeared in the market. That of St. Louis has been too much "*adjustez*." The Braybrooke cameo of Elizabeth is not by Valerio Vicentino. The signet ring that belonged to Lord Buchan did not bear the arms of Mary, Queen of Scots, and therefore is not *apropos* of anything she did.

The less said about the Luther rings the better, and the love-knotted initials of some William and Sarah are but poor warranty for the so-called Shakspeare's ring, despite Haydon's gushing note to Keats; other initials similarly united are frequent upon gold and silver signets of that period.

Very inadequate mention is made of some of the more important collections of rings in public museums or in private possession; one or two are now and again referred to their respective localities or owners, but no special notice is given of such cabinets as that of Mr. Franks, of Lord Ashburnham, of Mr. Octavius Morgan, of Mr. Evans, Mr. Cook, and others; we could name one, sections of which have been exhibited from time to time, numbering over 700 examples of all periods and countries, exclusive of gems in modern mountings.

The revision of the proofs of this volume has been carelessly done; thus we have at p. 15 "Padre Gerachi"; at p. 379 "Garuchi" for Garrucci; p. 267 Signor "Castel-

lane"; p. 43 "Rhine" for "Rhone." The paragraph on Indian rings at p. 78 is repeated *verbatim* at p. 84. At p. 238 "Ghirlandago"; p. 246 "Loretto"; and occasional careless writing, as in the description of the Doge's espousal of the Adriatic. While, in his preface, Mr. Jones thanks his publishers for their liberality in illustrating the volume, he omits acknowledging the loan of blocks from various sources.

But we must repeat that, notwithstanding its many faults, this book is so full of anecdote and story that its want of archaeological accuracy may be condoned in its interest to the general reader. It is the compilation of a diligent searcher among books and magazines rather than the work of one deeply acquainted with the special characteristics of the objects of which he treats.

C. DEURY FORTNUM.

THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

A WINTER Exhibition of Paintings and Sketches was opened to the public at the Suffolk Street Gallery on Monday last. It is a characterless sort of display; here and there a good or goodish performance, amid a large slush of mediocrity, and a firm substratum of rubbish. We shall specify first a few things of more than the average value or importance, from all sections of the exhibition, and afterwards proceed through it sectionally so far as may appear needful.

The work we like best of all is a small water-colour by Mr. Smetham, almost sunk out of sight—*Looking into the Sepulchre*; the Magdalen and her two companions gazing in the dark morning into the tomb of Jesus, wherein a marvellous globe of rayed light replaces the body of the risen Saviour. The boughs of trees and shrubs sway aside in both directions, leaving an open space for the tomb and the women; they gaze in reverence rather than astonishment or perturbation. This little work is a genuine outcome of a religious mind and artistic faculty; it has gravity and grace of design, and is hushed, lovely, and mystical. Amid numerous inventions of similar calibre, Mr. Smetham has never probably done himself more justice than in this. Another Biblical subject is *The Sower of Tares*, by Mr. Priolo: not certainly a work of any great attainment, but showing, as in the limbs of the sleeping figures, a somewhat higher endeavour in design than the minor exhibitions of the day accustom us to. Five husbandmen are slumbering in a tent: the "Enemy" slinks through the moon-lit field outside, and sows the tares. Mr. Wallis sends *Arranging for the Marriage, an Idyll of the Sacristy*, in southern Italy. There are two priests, one of them in colloquy with the bride-elect, a barefoot peasant-girl in her early teens, the other conferring with the bridegroom. The former priest wipes his hand on a towel, and eyes with good-humoured complacency the dish of red mullets which the damsel and her little sister have brought round for acceptance: the other is seated on a marble bench projecting from the richly-decorated wall. This work is something between a sketch and a picture: the faces of the young people are extremely handsome, or one might say pretty, and would bear more of naturalistic development with great advantage to the whole. *The Dinner*, by Mr. Moor-mans, is a work of larger size and pretensions—a hilarious and well-assorted company in the costume of about 1620. The perspective of the table and its occupants is very clever; and the whole thing has a good deal of unity and completeness, as well as efficiency, in its own way—which, however, does not go far beyond the level of well-ordered and methodised furniture-art. Sir John Gilbert contributes a pleasant sketch of *Owen Glendower's House*, commonly

called the *Parliament-house*, *Dolgelly*, painted last year, and of more than common interest just now, in view of the menaced destruction of this homely-picturesque relic; also *A Standard-bearer*, a small figure somewhat in the Meissonier manner. *Dinner-time, a Sketch*, by Mr. Calthrop, is capitally done, though too opaque in handling: a boy sousing his visage in a tub at the sink, before sitting down to his meal. In Mr. Calthrop opaque-ness takes a dun and leathery tinge: in Mr. W. L. Wyllie the same blemish shows with chalky garishness. His *Enkhuizen on the Zuyder Zee* is nevertheless very enjoyable, with the arbitrary forms and tattered outskirts of its exultant cloud-masses: a water-colour of *Amsterdam*, by the same artist, is quite as good, and not chargeable with the like defect. The *Zaandam* of Mr. O. W. Wyllie, with a foreground of corn-sheaves in the fields, and a plenteous array of windmills along the horizon, is again a very agreeable work.

Sir Francis Grant, who is an honorary member of the Society of British Artists, appears on the present occasion with two pictures: a respectable portrait of *The Honourable Mrs. William Grey*, evidently not a very recent production, and a large canvas of *The Duke of Cambridge, at the Battle of the Alma, leading the Guards up the Hill in Support of the Light Division*—also, no doubt, of rather remote date. Here the dogs of war are let loose in a very tame style, proportionate to the mainly portrait-like character of the piece. With this we may couple two small Crimean battle-subjects to which no artist's name is attached in the catalogue, spiritedly grouped and thrown together—*The Guards at Inkerman*, and *Charge of French Cuirassiers*. Mr. Donaldson makes but little out of *Margaret in the Church*, taunted and tempted by Mephistopheles: his landscapes are far preferable, especially the one in water-colours named *Lake in Arundel Park*. *The Connoisseur*, by Mr. Dever, is sprightly, and moderately mature in finish. A young French nobleman, of a period preceding by a few years the first Revolution, has received the visit of an elderly dame and her bright-eyed daughter, who turn over his china and other curiosities. The mother is busy inspecting a blue kylin in front, while behind the damsel holds a miniature Cupid with bow and arrow, pointed towards the young man, who is half-seated on the edge of a table: they interchange glances which show that they both appreciate the significance of this situation. Messrs. J. D. Watson and Charlton co-operate in a well-sized picture entitled *A Check*—gentlemen in the hunting-field, one of whom has dismounted to adjust his saddle: this is a simple unelaborated work, not of very marked quality, but able in its line.

We shall revert to this exhibition on a future occasion.

PICTURES IN THE HAYMARKET.

Two leading picture-dealers in the Haymarket, Mr. Tooth and Mr. McLean, have a fresh stock of works on view: oil-pictures in the former case, and water-colours in the latter.

Mr. Tooth's exhibition includes fifty-eight of Mr. Goodall's deservedly prized sketches and studies in the East—works which, when left fairly to themselves, and not smartened up into pictures, are often of uncommon excellence, as, for instance, *The Blind Beggar* and the *Nubian Harper*. Also *In Debate*, a vivid sketch of an aged bishop, by Pettie; *Southampton Water, Sunset*, and *The Gravel-Pits*, by Linnell; *The Tailor's Shop*, a lively caricaturish scene, by Jimenez; *Sempstresses*, a good specimen of Frère; *The Bath and Prayer in the Desert*, secondary but none the less very able examples of Gérôme; *Sunshine and Clouds*, companion-pictures by Boughton, of too artificial a type, and a clever little piece of humour, *The Passing Squall*; *Clearing Off*, a Highland cattle-piece by Peter Graham; *The Close of Day*, by Mc

Whirter; *The Long Sleep*, an old farmer dead in his chair, with his brace of dogs, by Briton Rivière; *A Creek on the Upper Thames*, by Mignot, a fine work very sweet in feeling; *Summer*, by Coleman, a quaint figure of a naked girl, of fanciful character like a fairy-tale; and *The White Cockade* by Millais, a most masterly example of his handling, colour, and chiaroscuro, though a little harsh and forced in the selection of the tints.

In Mr. McLean's Gallery we remark—*Tynemouth*, by Fildes; some single figures of women, by E. K. Johnson; *Hoisting the Standard and The Dog-Fancier*, by Gow; *Prayer in the Desert*, by Haug; flower-pieces by Mrs. Coleman Angell; *Pevensey Castle*, by George Frigg; *The Widow*, by Israels; *Water-Lilies*, by A. Guérin; *Interior of a Cathedral in Spain*, a brilliant piece of work, by Spanaro; *Tigers at Play*, by Basil Bradley; *A Cold Morning*, by Frère; *Chamois on the verge of a waterfall*, by Rosa Bonheur; *The Listener*, by Cipriani; *Morning at Newlyn, Cornwall*, by J. Dickinson; *Springtime on the Trent*, by Edwin Ellis; and *A Storm coming on in the Highlands*, by Dodgson.

Each of these exhibitions contains about 170 works. W. M. ROSSETTI.

NOTES AND NEWS.

WE learn that General di Cesnola is engaged upon an exhaustive work on the antiquities of Cyprus, which will be ready for publication in a few months. It will contain a description of the different localities explored by him during the ten years (1866-76) of his official residence in that island—i.e., Kitium, Amathus, Paphos, Soli, Golgos, Idalion, Cythera and Salamis, &c., and lastly Kurium. The introduction will sketch the early history of Cyprus; and a full description will be given of the excavations and the survey of the island. General di Cesnola has discovered no less than thirty-three ancient burial-grounds, and identified the site of seventeen ancient cities, from which the treasures have been exhumed. The book will contain about 300 illustrations, and a map of Cyprus. In an appendix will be printed all the inscriptions discovered—about 200 in number—in Cypriote, Greek, Assyrian, and Phœnician. Mr. O. W. King, of Cambridge, will contribute a notice of the gems found in the treasure of Kurium, and Lord Lilford one on the birds of the island.

ON Saturday next there will be a private view of a series of sketches and drawings made by Mr. H. A. Harper in Sinai and the Holy Land. The exhibition of these drawings will be held in Messrs. Agnew's gallery in Waterloo Place.

MR. TISSOT is likely very soon to surprise the admirers of his recent works in painting by an essay in a widely different style. He is now, we believe, engaged upon an allegorical picture, which will probably be exhibited next year.

MR. E. J. POYNTER, R.A., is now engaged upon his diploma picture, to be presented to the Royal Academy. It is a study of two female figures, one draped and the other nude, and is specially designed, not with the view of illustrating any particular theme, but as an example of art-practice. Both figures are seated, and they are so arranged in relation to one another as to form a graceful and consistent composition.

It is probable that during the course of next season a very large and valuable collection of the works of David Cox will be brought into the market. Mr. Ellis, of Streatham, whose death has been recently announced, was one of the most intimate friends of the great water-colour painter, and a constant companion in his artistic rambles. His collection, which numbers upwards of 300 examples, possesses for this reason a peculiar interest. It was formed in direct communication with the artist, and it includes many slight sketches and studies, highly significant of the

artist's mode of work, which only a friend would be likely to obtain. A large number of the drawings are concerned with the scenery of Derbyshire, and the collection also includes one or two pictures in oil.

MR. ALBERT MOORE is now finishing two companion designs, each of a single female figure, painted upon a somewhat larger scale than he has recently chosen. The subject of both pictures is so far identical that in each the lady holds a book from which she is or has been reading. In the first the motive is that of a complete and absorbed attention. The head is slightly bent in order that the eyes may rest upon the pages of the open volume which she supports in the right hand. In the second of the two designs, the only one that is as yet absolutely finished, the artist has chosen a moment of repose and reflection. With a gesture entirely natural and interesting as showing the artist's research of the most simple and abstract motive for his design, the hand which holds the volume has dropped by her side, and the face turned upwards bears a meditative gaze as though the reader's progress had been suddenly arrested by some vivid image that still enchains her thought. This impression is supported by the left hand, which rests negligently upon the hip and is half concealed by the folds of drapery in which the figure is clad.

At the meeting of the Cambridge Philological Society on the 9th inst., Mr. Percy Gardner read a paper on an unpublished vase in the British Museum, with representations—the names of the figures being inscribed—of the seizure of Thetis and Peleus, on the inside, and, on the outside, of the combat of Aeneas with Diomedes, and of Herakles with Kyknos, from the *Iliad* and the Hesiodic *Scutum Heracleis* respectively.

AN important archaeological discovery has been made in the church of St. Peter ad Vincula in Rome. Between the altar and the apse, in a longitudinal line, a marble sarcophagus has been found about two metres in length. On it are sculptured five groups in alto-rilievo, in excellent preservation, apparently of fourth or fifth century work. They represent (1) the Saviour raising Lazarus, whose sister is kneeling down close to the grave; (2) the miracle of the loaves and fishes; (3) Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well; (4) Jesus predicting to St. Peter his triple denial; and (5) Jesus delivering the keys to St. Peter. Inside the sarcophagus are seven compartments, which have led to the belief that it contains the bodies of the seven holy Maccabees, who, as ecclesiastical history and tradition hold, were buried in this basilica.

A VERY agreeable and interesting exhibition has been started of late in Brighton (Dyke Road), a collection of British birds, got together by Mr. E. T. Booth, a local gentleman, who appears to be a keen sportsman and observant naturalist. All the birds in the museum were killed or captured by this gentleman. There are 306 glass cases for the birds; the great majority of these are already filled, but there are still several vacancies as yet. The number of specimens far exceeds the number of cases: perhaps three specimens per case would be a moderate computation. The great charm of the collection consists in the care and taste with which the stuffed birds have been treated, with all sorts of appropriate rock-work, grass, and foliage, sands, imitation ponds, &c., &c., so as to bring out, in the liveliest colours of truth, the actual habits and associations of the creatures; they are made to do what they would naturally be doing, and every detail is carried out (entirely, as we understand, by Mr. and Mrs. Booth) in the most delicate, complete, and intelligent manner. On the whole, we have never seen anything in the way of taxidermy to equal, or even approach, this museum, for a clear perception of what is most necessary and most pleasant to tell, and a graceful artistic sense in arrangement and execution. To

give an idea of the birds here represented, we name at haphazard the first and last half-dozen entries in the catalogue:—Osprey, swift, goat-sucker, swallow, golden plover in summer, the same in autumn, little stint in summer, the same in autumn, little grebe, red-neck grebe, stonechat, and bullfinch.

THE Committee for the Byron Monument have not approved for execution any one of the competitive designs recently sent in, as referred to by us last week. They have, however, in inviting a further competition for May next, asked six of the present competitors to come forward again, subject to some arrangement for meeting their expenses. We presume that among these six must be included all or most of the five contributing artists to whom we more especially adverted in our previous remarks.

THE grand ceremony of prize-giving took place at the Académie des Beaux-Arts on October 28, under the presidency of M. Meissonier. A somewhat tardy *éloge* on Eugène Delacroix, who has now been dead for thirteen years, was pronounced on the occasion by the Vicomte Henri Delaborde. The *Chronique* gives the following list of laureates:—Grand prix for painting (the subject being, as before stated, *Priam asking Achilles for the Dead Body of Hector*), MM. Wencker and Dagnan, pupils of M. Gérôme. Grand prix for sculpture (the subject being *Jason carrying off the Golden Fleece*), MM. Lanson, Boucher, and Turcan. Grand prix for architecture, MM. Blondel, Bernard, and Roussi. For engraving, MM. Boisson and Roussi. MM. Wencker, Lanson, Blondel, and Boisson have also carried off the prizes founded by M^{me}. Leprince, each in his own particular department.

WE are sorry to learn that this restless, energetic nineteenth century of ours is at last forcing its way even into mediæval Nürnberg, which has long resisted its invading forces. One of the obtrusive war-monuments with which Germany has been everywhere commemorating her victories was erected last month in the quaint narrow Adlerstrasse in Nürnberg. Even Rauch's monument to Dürer, excellent as it is in itself, and placed in a good position, always seems a little incongruous in its mediæval setting, so one may judge of the distracting effect of a huge modern Victory bearing the Imperial crown among the many noble and beautiful monuments that are the heritage of Nürnberg from her art-workmen of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. It is characteristic of our modern modes of division of labour that the present monument was *designed*, it is stated, by Prof. Wanderer, but by whom *executed* is not said. In olden times the artist and the workman were one. Peter Vischer and Adam Kraft worked with their own hands on the magnificent shrines that have handed down their names to posterity.

PROF. WISLICENUS is at present exhibiting in Düsseldorf two large compositions symbolical of Spring and Summer, which are destined for the National Gallery of Berlin. They are intended to be wholly ideal works, but are not quite free from *genre*. They have excited much adverse criticism.

FRANCE has recently lost two distinguished sculptors. M. Jean-Joseph Perraud, a member of the Academy, a chevalier of the Légion d'honneur, and well known by his numerous works, died at the beginning of this month, at the age of fifty-six. At about the same date M. Paul Cabet, a sculptor of considerable note, though not a member of the Academy, nor decorated like M. Perraud, succumbed to a disease that had necessitated a painful operation. M. Cabet worked for some years in Russia, where he executed busts of many of the Imperial family, and likewise designed a monumental fountain at Odessa, and numerous sculptures and decorative works for the church of St. Isaac at St. Petersburg. He was a pupil of Rude, and continued to work in the modern spirit of that eminent master to the last.

AN interesting biographical account of Jean-Baptiste Huet, a painter of whom very little is known, although he was Court Painter to Louis XV., is contributed to last week's *L'Art* by M. Genevay. A portrait of Huet is given, and numerous reproductions from his works.

A FINE collection of pictures, formed by the Infant Don Sebastian de Bourbon, himself an artist of merit, is at present being exhibited at Pau, as one of the attractions of that fashionable resort. The collection consists of about 700 paintings, among which the names of Murillo, Velasquez, Titian, Ribera, Goya, Rubens, Rembrandt, and other great masters frequently occur.

THE *Art Monthly* again gives a specimen of Blake's art, in a photograph from a drawing of the Ascension of the Virgin, in the possession of Mr. Fisher, of Midhurst. It is a slight, but graceful work. The other illustrations of the number are *The Dairy Maid*, from a sketch by Mr. T. Graham, and Lord R. Gower's sculptured head of Christ, entitled "*It is Finished*," in the last Royal Academy exhibition.

THE STAGE.

ONE of the things that Mr. Forster did not tell us in his *Life of Dickens* is how far Dickens's handling of his themes was influenced by that of brother novelists. Some day it may be an interesting matter for enquiry how the author who began his career with a work in which there is no plot at all ended it with a work in which the plot is neither more nor less than something like the best in English fiction; and when that question comes to be carefully gone into, it may probably be found that the author of *Edwin Drood* took account of the literary taste of 1870 much as the author of *Pickwick* had taken account of the literary taste of 1836. Dickens began his career amid the successes of the novel of adventure, and ended it amid the successes of the novel of plot. In the novel of plot—now happily somewhat out of fashion again—no one had succeeded better than Mr. Wilkie Collins; and Mr. Wilkie Collins's success, together with his personal relations with Dickens, brought his work, we may be sure, very much before the mind of the master novelist. Once at least it was arranged for the two men to work together, and *No Thoroughfare* was produced. Into the secrets of collaboration it is difficult to go; but one need not be very penetrating to conjecture that to *No Thoroughfare* each novelist brought the qualities for which he had long been recognised. The parentage of Walter Wilding gave fit matter for the art of Mr. Collins, and the characters of Joey Ladle and Sally Goldstraw must stand, of course, among the slighter creations of the master. The drama, though ingenious, is without charm: were it not for the cellarman and Sally it would not unfrequently wax tedious. For Wilding is himself so uninteresting a personage that the question of his parentage, however ably manoeuvred, is not one that has power to hold our interest. And Obenreizer, a worthless man with the art to be considered worthy, lacks in the drama—unless, indeed, the drama have the aid of Fechter—most of what might make his fortunes appear probable. The character is played now at the Olympic by Mr. Arthur Stirling, who brings to its representation all sorts of excellent endeavour, but wants the lightness of touch, the delicacy of treatment, needed to make the personage quite readily acceptable. George Vendale, gallant and free, is a character for Mr. Henry Neville; and he it is who plays it, as he played it on the piece's first production, several years ago. Joey Ladle can hardly have been better played in the old days than it is now by Mr. W. J. Hill, whose unction is perfectly in keeping with the part. The heroine, Marguerite, is represented by Miss Carlisle, in her style that is always refined, sometimes perhaps monotonous:

leaning certainly to the side of tameness, though never without grace. Miss Maggie Brennan gives the performance piquancy—sprinkles what salt she can over the whole. That is her especial quality. Force she wants, *finesse* she may want, subtlety she may want. Asked, as she was not long ago, to take up a part in which for many a night before Mrs. Bancroft had displayed an ability second to that of no comedian on our stage, Miss Brennan was tried indeed, and was found partially wanting. But in a character needing no show either of high excitement or subtle pathos—in a character simply and quaintly comical, with a dialogue agreeably acidulated—Miss Brennan has no superior. As Sally Goldstraw, nurse of the Foundling, she is seen not badly in *No Thoroughfare*.

WHY should *La Boule* be taken to task because it is not the same as *Frou-frou*? An out-of-doors sketch in water-colour, so that it has its own right quality of vividness, is not to be reproached as inferior to a large studio-work. There are differences of kind as well as of degree, and no comparison is possible between *La Boule* and *Frou-frou*. *Frou-frou* is a comedy for a serious comedian—one, too, which a comedian of genius happened to make more famous than it would otherwise have been—*La Boule* is a merry pastime, written for the delectation of those who have dined amply at Brébant's, and designed to be interpreted with the freedom of the Palais Royal. And now *La Boule* has come to the Criterion, and *Hot Water* is interpreted by Mr. Charles Wyndham, Mr. Righton, Mr. Clarke, Miss Fanny Josephs, Miss Nellie Bromley, and Miss Eastlake. The piece has borne transplanting, perhaps, a little better than we had expected, but it is not in effect the same thing by any means that it was in Paris. The comic situations are of course preserved; they are only a little less sensibly comic. Much of the original dialogue is at the Criterion also, but the witticisms of Meilhac and Halévy do not gain by translation, and their witticisms were never more pronounced and never more Parisian than in *La Boule*. But *Hot Water*, after all, is something very different from an elongated farce and from a comic drama conventionally comic. It is not only good animal spirits that send it on its way successfully: the thing has observation that is close and original. The cast is for the London stage, as we have already indicated, really a liberal one. Few comic theatres, without making important additions to their company, could have brought out the piece with such a strong support, at least on the side of the men. Mr. Wyndham is much in favour, and he gives to the kind of part to which in general he wisely restricts himself an air of ease and reality which have made the over-sanguine see in him thus early a second Charles Mathews. But he has not the sparkle of the elder comedian, as the elder comedian was "within the memory of men" not only "still living," but not yet middle-aged. However, he rattles through the part of the hero of *Hot Water* as well as need be. Mr. Righton could hardly be surpassed as the ancient *beau*. Mr. Clarke's dry and rarely varied humour has sufficient scope as the servant Muddle. Mrs. Pattleton, the wife of the hero—one of the couple, indeed, whose needless matrimonial squabbles are supposed to make the interest of the piece—is represented by Miss Fanny Josephs, pleasantly and with gentle comedy. The character of Marietta, an actress, is rendered with sufficient vivacity by Miss Nellie Bromley; and that of Lady Rose—a young woman who has little to do with such plot as the story contains—is made acceptable by the grace of Miss Eastlake. *Hot Water* makes the audience merry, and answers perhaps something more than that humble purpose in doing so.

MR. BUCKSTONE has reappeared at the Haymarket Theatre, in a familiar part and familiar piece.

MR. HOLLINGSHEAD announces the engagement of M^{me}. Chaumont, who will appear to-night and on several following nights at the Opéra Comique. M^{me}. Chaumont's performances, as we need hardly remind those of our readers who know the Parisian theatres, are in character almost unique. Levasseur, who played in London a dozen years ago, was perhaps the only other comedian who could do so much unassisted.

M. AUGUSTE VITU and M. F. Sarcey are receiving subscriptions for the widow and other heirs of M. Duvert, the dramatic author, whose claims as a writer of excellent old-fashioned vaudeville we stated more fully the other day; and M. Duvert's works, in six volumes, are to be published by subscription by Charpentier fils—the proceeds, when the publisher is reimbursed, going to the writer's family. The subscription for the six volumes is twenty francs.

MUSIC.

NEW MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

WITH a pile of nearly sixty pieces of new music, exclusive of large works, lying before us and awaiting notice, it is obviously impossible to do more than make a few remarks upon the more important, and dismiss the others with a single word, and in some cases without a word. There is so much music published in the present day of little or no real value, that it is a mere waste of time to speak about it. After putting aside all pieces of this class, there still remains much to be criticised, and we trust the composers and publishers will be indulgent if we give in many cases less space to our remarks than the merit of the music would demand.

Taking first instrumental works, the most important undoubtedly is Mr. Walter Macfarren's *Second Sonata (in D major) for Piano and Violin* (Novello, Ewer and Co.). It is satisfactory to find that we have among us musicians who cultivate the higher forms of composition merely from love of the art; for nobody would think of publishing a sonata as a pecuniary speculation. Mr. Macfarren's work is very pleasing, skilfully written, and it lies very well for both instruments, showing an intimate knowledge of their capabilities; its weak point is that it reminds us too decidedly of Mendelssohn's sonata in the same key for piano and violoncello. Except in the slow movement it is almost impossible to avoid being struck by the general resemblance of the two works. Mr. Macfarren, however, might have taken a far worse model; and his sonata does great credit to his musicianly skill. His *Two Nocturnes for the Pianoforte* (Novello, Ewer and Co.) have more individuality, and are excellent drawing-room pieces. *Trois Pensées Capricieuses pour le Piano*, par Frédéric W. Fuller (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), are three pleasing little pieces, in which again the Mendelssohn influence is clearly to be seen. But why does an English composer give us a French title? Is he ashamed of his own tongue? The fashion is an absurdity. *Variations on an Original Theme, in G minor*, by Francis Davenport, Op. 12, No. 2 (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), are decidedly clever, and above the average in originality; they are, however, in our opinion, somewhat dry. The theme itself is not very interesting, and the variations follow suit. Four pieces by Franz M. D'Alquen, entitled *Cantilena Affettuosa*, *Minuetto Sentimentale*, *Minuetto Grazioso*, and *Frühlings-Gedanken*, second impromptu (Brighton: J. and W. Chester), show much gracefulness of idea, and are certainly likely to be popular; on the whole they deserve it, though here and there may be found licences in the harmony of which strict theorists will hardly approve.

Messrs. Ashdown and Parry have sent for review a number of drawing-room and teaching pieces, of which the mere catalogue will suffice; we will merely say that they are all good of their

kind—which is not the highest kind—that they will be found useful as teaching pieces, as they abound in scale-passages, arpeggios, broken chords, and octaves; and that they are of various degrees of difficulty, but none of them beyond the reach of an average advanced pupil at a boarding-school. The pieces are the following—Sydney Smith: *Le Bivouac*, *Airs Ecossais*, *Mosé in Egitto*, and *Il Trovatore*; Boyton Smith: *La Danse des Sauterelles*; Edwin M. Lott: *Snowdon* (Fantasia on Welsh airs), and *In the Highlands* (Fantasia on Scotch airs); and Louis Diehl: *Coralline* (Caprice), *La Maja* (Mauresque), and *The Magic Harp* (Moreau de Salon). For the guidance of teachers we have named these pieces as far as may be in the order of difficulty, Mr. Sydney Smith's pieces requiring the most execution, while Mr. Diehl's are, on the whole, the easiest. A series of scales and finger-exercises published under the title of *Technical Practice*, by J. Henry Pollard (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), is usefully and systematically arranged, without presenting any specially novel feature. Parts 30, 31 and 32 of the *Organist's Quarterly Journal* (Novello, Ewer and Co.) are of about the average merit: that is to say, they contain some very good pieces (especially the Minuets by Messrs. Hamilton Clarke, Silas and Henry Smart, the Fugue by Mr. F. Archer, and the Fantasia by Mr. W. S. Hoyte), and a considerable number of indifferent ones. Every allowance, should, however, be made for the editor, Dr. Spark, who has to provide entirely new and original works for each number. Apparently the supply of high-class organ-music is not equal to the demand.

In vocal music, the place of honour should be given to six of the solo numbers from Prof. Macfarren's oratorio *The Resurrection*, composed for the last Birmingham Festival (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), and noticed in our report of the festival at the time. The complete score of the oratorio is not yet published, and the six numbers now before us are the songs, "Let us have grace," "For this our heart is faint," "Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed," and "His right hand shall hold us up;" the duet "In due season we shall reap;" and the trio "The peace of God, which passeth all understanding." We prefer to reserve any detailed notice of the music until we are able to speak on the work as a whole; meanwhile we would call attention to the publication of these separate numbers, and especially commend the very charming trio, which struck us in hearing the oratorio at Birmingham as one of the most effective pieces in the work. *Three Lyrics from Heine's Book of Songs and Two Songs* ("Piping down the valleys wild," and "Infant Joy"), by M. G. Carmichael (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.) show the same remarkable aptitude for composition that we have before noticed in this young lady's music. Miss Carmichael, though Schumann's influence is occasionally discernible in her writings, has more than ordinary individuality; and while these songs show here and there marks of inexperience, and little clumsiness which further study will doubtless enable her to avoid, they are far above the average of merit. The Heine songs are particularly good. *Gone and My Marguerite*, two songs by Leo Silvani (Swan and Pentland), while hardly so original as those just noticed, may yet be commended as well written, and showing genuine feeling. *I am the Angel*, song by Rosetta O'Leary Vinning (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), is in no respect inferior to several other songs from the same pen which we have seen. With good singing it cannot fail to be effective. *Under a Lilac Tree*, by Arthur O'Leary (Novello, Ewer and Co.), is a very pleasing and well-written song, which can be heartily commended. *Eva Tual*, Irish song, *Para ten skien*, Ode by Anacreon, and *Donec gratus eram tibi*, Ode by Horace, composed by Charles Salaman (Novello, Ewer and Co.), are the work of a thorough musician, who has never yet (so far as we know) published any

rubbish. We doubt, however, whether he has been very happy in his treatment of the accents in Horace's ode; at least he appears to scan his verses in a very different way from that which was taught in schools five-and-twenty years ago, when we learned Horace. With this reservation we have only praise for the songs, which are very graceful and melodious. *The Ivy Tower*, song by Berthold Tours (Stanley Lucas, Weber and Co.), is clever, but contains, we think, too violent modulations for a piece of its class. Within six bars we find four changes of key, three of which are very abrupt, and, moreover, have no apparent warrant in the text. *Shall I Compare thee to a Summer's Day*, song, by Robert Hoar (Hutchings and Romer), is a setting of Shakespeare's eighteenth sonnet, not strikingly original, but thoughtful, and by no means destitute of good points. *Jesus, tender Shepherd*, sacred song, and *Over the Waters*, barcarolle, by Martin S. Skellington (Keith, Prowse and Co.), are two very good songs, which evince considerable taste on the part of their composer. *Two-Part School Songs* (second set), by J. F. Borschitzky (London: J. F. Borschitzky), are in reality a set of solfeggi, which, to render them more interesting to the pupil, are set to words, instead of being sung, as usual, merely to vowels. They are well adapted to their purpose as exercises, and we suppose the composer did not intend them for anything more.

EBENEZER PROUT.

HANDEL's *Acis and Galatea* occupied the whole of last Saturday's concert at the Crystal Palace. The work had not been given at Sydenham for seven years, and it is so seldom heard in public that the revival had almost the character of a novelty. The solo parts were all in excellent hands, the distribution being as follows: Galatea, Miss Catherine Penna; Acis, Mr. Shakespeare; Damon, Mr. Henry Guy; and Polypheme, Signor Foli. The chorus singing was extremely good, and Mozart's charming additional accompaniments were played to perfection by Mr. Mann's orchestra. This afternoon Raff's overture to "Ein feste Burg" is to be given for the first time in England, and Miss Anna Mehlig will play Henselt's piano-forte concerto.

At the second Monday Popular Concert, last Monday, M^{me}. Norman-Néruda was the violinist, leading Schumann's fine quartett in A minor, and Haydn's in F (Op. 50, No. 5), in both which works she was supported by Messrs. L. Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti. Mr. Charles Hallé was the pianist, playing Beethoven's early solo sonata in F major, Op. 10, No. 2, and joining M^{me}. Néruda and Signor Piatti in Schubert's great trio in E flat, Op. 100, a work which is in general most unaccountably neglected, though the companion trio in B flat (No. 1) is very frequently to be heard. The greater technical difficulty of the later work may, perhaps, militate to some extent against its popularity; but no such reason need be taken into consideration at the Monday Popular Concerts, where none but artists of the first rank are ever heard.

On Saturday last Messrs. Hodge and Essex, the agents for the "Estey" American organs, opened their new show rooms in Argyll Street with a musical *soirée*. The tone and power of the "Estey" organs were shown off to great advantage by Mr. Augustus Tamplin; the instruments appear to have considerable variety of quality, and to be capable of more expression than many of the American organs that we have previously heard. In addition to Mr. Tamplin's performances, vocal and instrumental selections were given by M^{lle}. Liebhart, M^{lle}. Redeker, Herr Wilhelmj, Herr Niemann, and other artists. The show rooms are spacious and of good acoustic properties, and would be well adapted for chamber concerts.

HERR FRANKÉ'S third Subscription Concert took

place at Langham Hall on Tuesday evening. The programme included Schubert's magnificent quintett for strings in C major (Op. 163), the "Deutsche Reigen" of Kiel for piano and violin, Brahms's piano quintett in F minor, two solos by Popper for violoncello, and songs. The performers were Messrs. Franke, Van Praag, Holländer, Daubert, Pettit, and Beringer, as instrumentalists, and M^{lle}. Redeker as the vocalist. The rendering of the various pieces had, as a whole, much to commend; in the more difficult passages for the strings the intonation was not always entirely above reproach, and the performances are as yet wanting in that finished ensemble which nothing but long practice together by the players can give; but Herr Franke has evidently good material at his disposal, and there is no reason why in time he should not succeed in gaining for his quartett party a very high reputation.

On Tuesday last M. Edmond Andrade commenced at the rooms of the Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, a course of six lectures on the Galin-Paris-Chevé method of teaching music. The first lecture was introductory, explaining the special features of the system; the remaining discourses will be devoted to the following topics:—A Common-sense Theory of Music, Musical Notation, Sight Reading, Piano Teaching, and Harmony. The lectures are given in connexion with the Women's Education Union.

M. ERNEST REYER has been elected successor at the Académie des Beaux-Arts to the late Félicien David. The choice will be received with general satisfaction, as M. Reyer deservedly holds a high place among French musicians.

M. EDOUARD BATISTE, for more than twenty years organist of the church of St. Eustache at Paris, and professor of the Conservatoire, died on the 7th inst., at the age of fifty-six.

THE death is also announced from Nice of the formerly celebrated bass singer, Tamburini. He was born at Faenza on March 28, 1800, and was, consequently, seventy-six years of age. He was the contemporary of Persiani, Grisi, Malibran, Rubini, and Lablache, and was in his time considered one of the first singers in Europe. He retired from the stage in 1855, and for many years lived at Sèvres, where he had some property. He recently removed to Nice by the order of his physicians, and died there on the 8th inst.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Austin (Stella), For Old Sake's Sake, 12mo	(Masters)	3/0
Bather (Archdeacon), Charges of, edited by C. J. Vaughan, 12mo	(Macmillan & Co.)	4/6
Biographies of Good Women, edited by C. M. Yonge, 1st series, 2nd ed., 12mo	(Mozley & Co.)	6/0
Boyd (A. C.), Merchant Shipping Laws, 8vo	(Stevens & Sons)	25/0
Boyle (Fred.), The Savage Life, 8vo	(Chapman & Hall)	12/0
Chambers' Journal, vol. for 1876	(W. & R. Chambers)	9/0
Church Builder (The), vol. for 1876	(Livingtons)	3/0
Clan of the Cats; Stories of the Feline Animals, 4to	(Seeley & Co.)	5/0
Clemence (C.), New Testament Church Order and Discipline, 8vo	(J. Snow & Co.)	2/0
Cresay (Sir E. S.), First Platform of International Law, 8vo	(Van Voorst)	21/0
Dobson (Edward), Pioneer Engineering, 8vo	(Lockwood & Co.)	10/6
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